

1974  
SECURITY GR. (N.B. The grading of this jacket must be the same as that of the highest graded  
N.B. The grading of document contained in it. The appropriate upgrading slip must be affixed when ever necessary.)  
UPGRADE AS NEC

Contents checked  
for transfer to  
D.R.O.

(Sgd.) *HP*

Date *23/11/76*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
UNCL.

YEAR  
STAMP

H.M. DIPLOMATIC SERVICE

DEPT.  
or POST

MIDDLE EAST

FILE No. *NBR 2/1* (Part *1*)

TITLE: *EXTERNAL RELATIONS*  
*OF IRAQ*

*E 1543*

DO NOT RETAIN FILES AND PAPERS UNNECESSARILY  
RETURN THEM TO REGISTRY FOR B.U. OR P.A.

REFER TO

REFER TO

REFER TO

NAME (and dept. when necessary)	TO SEE:	DATE	NAME (and dept. when necessary)	TO SEE:	DATE	NAME (and dept. when necessary)	TO SEE:	DATE
<i>Registry</i>		<i>24/1</i>	<i>GSB</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>18/9</i>	<i>GSB</i>	<i>33/34</i>	<i>3/12</i>
<i>GSB</i>	<i>1.</i>	<i>24/1</i>	<i>R</i>		<i>22/9</i>	<i>R</i>		<i>5/12</i>
<i>R</i>		<i>26/3</i>	<i>GSB</i>	<i>19.</i>	<i>23/9</i>	<i>PKW</i>	<i>33</i>	
<i>GSB</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>27/3</i>	<i>R</i>		<i>14/X</i>	<i>GSB</i>	<i>35</i>	<i>9/12</i>
<i>R</i>		<i>2/5</i>	<i>GSB</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>14/X</i>	<i>R</i>		<i>10/XII</i>
<i>PKW</i>	<i>5</i>		<i>Mr Williams</i>		<i>14/X</i>	<i>GSB</i>	<i>37</i>	<i>10/12</i>
<i>Reg</i>		<i>3/6</i>	<i>R</i>		<i>15/X</i>	<i>R</i>		<i>10/XII</i>
<i>GSB</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>3/6</i>	<i>GSB</i>	<i>23/11</i>	<i>22/X</i>	<i>GSB</i>	<i>38</i>	<i>10/12</i>
<i>R</i>		<i>2/6</i>	<i>R</i>		<i>22/X</i>	<i>R</i>		<i>11/XII</i>
<i>GSB</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>24/6</i>	<i>GSB</i>	<i>24.</i>	<i>22/X</i>	<i>GSB</i>	<i>39</i>	<i>11/12</i>
<i>R</i>		<i>27</i>	<i>R</i>		<i>4/11</i>	<i>R</i>		<i>16/XII</i>
<i>GSB</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>3/7</i>	<i>GSB</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>6/11</i>	<i>R</i>	<i>40,41</i>	<i>11/12</i>
<i>R</i>		<i>25/7</i>	<i>R</i>		<i>8/XI</i>		<i>42,43</i>	<i>31/XII</i>
<i>PKW</i>	<i>(12)</i>		<i>GSB</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>5/11</i>		<i>45</i>	<i>31/XII</i>
<i>R</i>		<i>29/7</i>	<i>R</i>		<i>28/XI</i>			<i>6/1</i>
<i>PKW</i>	<i>14.</i>	<i>29/7</i>	<i>GSB</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>28/11</i>		<i>48/49</i>	<i>1/1</i>
<i>R</i>		<i>31/7</i>	<i>R</i>		<i>29/XI</i>		<i>51</i>	<i>1/1</i>
<i>PKW</i>	<i>(16)</i>	<i>2/8</i>	<i>GSB</i>	<i>31/32</i>	<i>29/11</i>			
<i>R</i>		<i>18.9</i>	<i>R</i>		<i>3/XII</i>			

*FCO 8/2312*

CLOSED  
UNTIL  
2005

Registry Address

Room No. *W.92 R*

Downing Street (W)

YEAR STAMP

SECURITY GRADI  
N.B. The grading of  
UPGRADE AS NECE

The grading of this jacket must be the same as that of the highest gr  
ained in it. The appropriate upgrading slip must be affixed when ever necessary.)

CONFIDENTIAL

*10-4*

PART

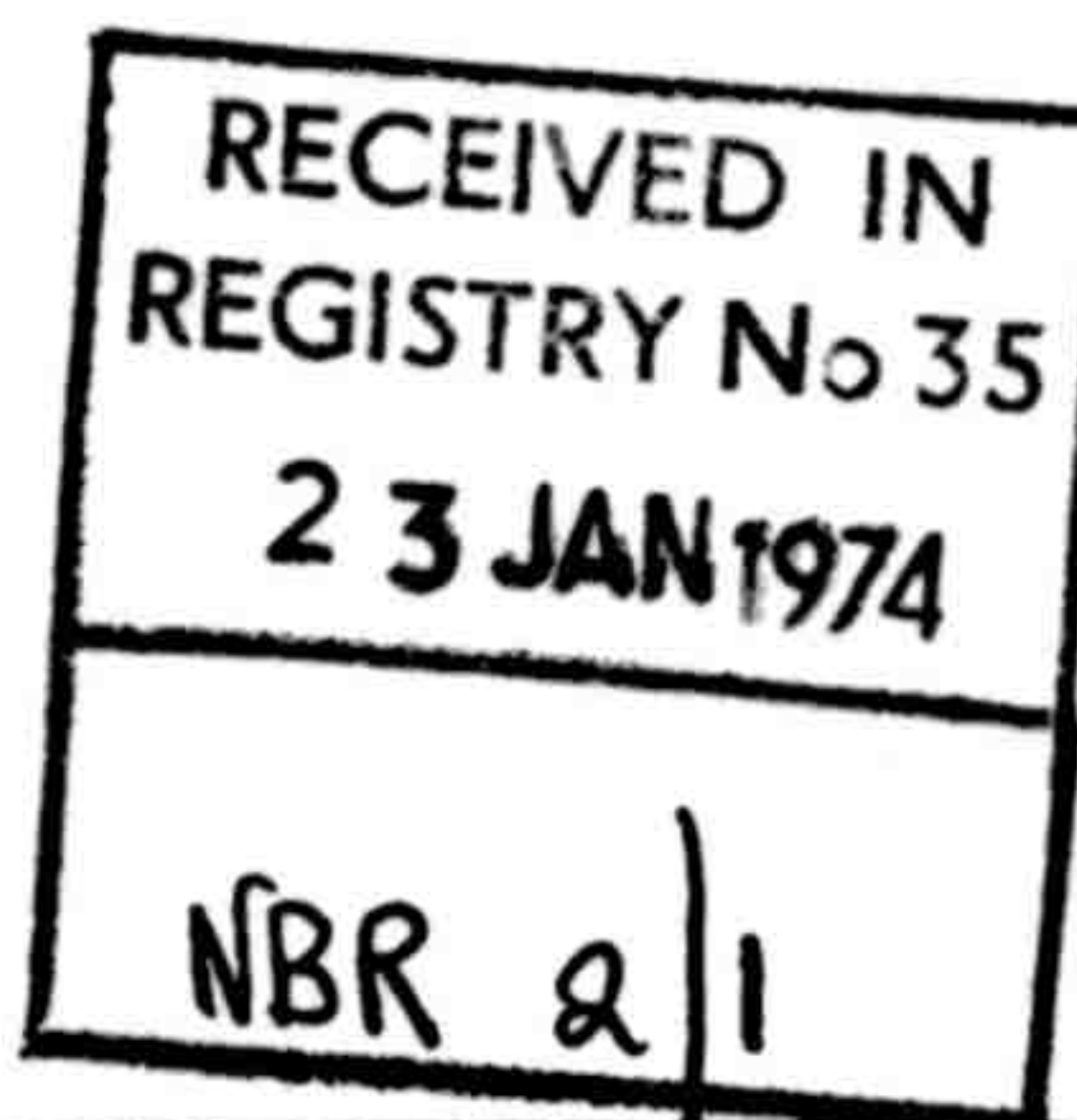
*NBR 2/1*

FILE No.



**ROYAL SWEDISH EMBASSY**

British Interests Section  
BAGHDAD



G.S. Burton Esq.,  
Middle East Department,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office,  
London.

Your reference

*Copied on*  
*Assumption of Relations*  
*NBR 12/548*  
*12/2*  
15 January 1974

*Dear Graham*

Which are Iraqs "friendly" countries?

*Interesting*  
*? e.g. Energy Dept*  
*Chambers in*  
*Kuwait*  
*Testa sent 22/12 24/1*  
In Baghdad the term friendly has been traditionally associated with the Eastern Bloc countries. They are the friends; the Arabs are brothers, and the rest are imperialists or undefined.

2. Since the war and the oil cutbacks the term "friendly countries" has taken a new meaning. Iraq has been careful in its definitions to be none too precise about who is friendly and who is not. During the war Western Europe was "neutral", and gradually became "friendly", by comparison with USA. When the friendly countries were listed by Arab Foreign Ministers, as a group or individually, Iraq did not disagree, but simply kept her council.

3. Among Western European countries, Iraq hailed France as having the right attitude, but no other European country has been specifically mentioned. As far as I can trace, the nearest the Iraqis have come to naming friendly countries is the interview with "Al Anwar" of Beirut when Hammadi said...

"Iraq is now shouldering the task of solving the problems which friendly countries face because of the cutback by supplying them with national sector oil. Numerous delegations from friendly countries have arrived in Baghdad for discussion and negotiations. Delegations from Spain, Austria, Brazil, Poland, Tanzania, Pakistan, India and Bulgaria have come to us. All these countries are friendly and have stood at our side; but, despite this, they are now suffering a dangerous crisis. Iraq is trying as far as its limited capacity permits to solve their energy shortage problems."

4. Though I missed it at the time, I should also record the editorial of the Baghdad Observer of 22 December. It said Iraq "has always been prepared to strike at foreign interests when any sign of aggression against the Arab Nation is shown by any state. With the nationalisation of PARTEX the only foreign shares remaining in BPC are those shares held by pro-Arab countries." This is the only time I have seen Britain called pro-Arab in the government press, even indirectly.

*Yours ever,*  
*lan*

(I. McCluney)



(2)

CYPHER CAT A

ADVANCE COPY

FM DAMASCUS 071030Z

RECEIVED 1
REGISTRATION 35
12 MAR 1974
NBR 2/1

*Handwritten:* 4-4-74  
(Depte)

RESTRICTED

TO PRIORITY F C O TELNO 114 OF 7 MARCH 1974

RFI PRIORITY BAGHDAD MOSCOW WASHINGTON ROUTINE TEL

AVIV AMMAN BEIRUT

MY TELNO 111 OF 6 MARCH: SOVIET AND IRAQI VISITS  
TO DAMASCUS.

1. DAMASCUS RADIO HAS NOW ANNOUNCED THE IRAQI VISIT.

2. FIGURE FOR IRAQI GIFT IS US DOLLARS FIFTY MILLION  
AND NOT £50 MILLION AS WRONGLY WRITTEN IN MY L  
LETTER TO CRAIG (10/6 OF 2 MARCH). MY TUNISIAN COLL-  
EAGUE INSISTS THAT IT IS A GIFT RATHER THAN A LOAN AND  
OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT CONFIRMS THIS.

F C O PSE PASS PRIORITY BAGHDAD MOSCOW WASHINGTON ROUTINE  
TEL AVIV AMMAN BEIRUT.

ROBERTS

NNNN

*Handwritten:* Mr. Bressler



RESTRICTED

3.

ROYAL SWEDISH EMBASSY

British Interests Section  
BAGHDAD

REC'D REGISTRY NO 35 25 MAR 1974 NBR 2/1.
--

G S Burton Esq.,  
Middle East Department,  
Foreign & Commonwealth Office,  
London. SW1.

Your reference

Our reference 1/1

Date 13th March 1974

*Dear Graham*

THE BAATH AND ITS FOREIGN RELATIONS

Just a note to draw your attention to Page 3 of Baghdad Observer of 12 March, which contains the Presidents statement about relations with foreign countries.

2. This is part of a ten hour speech he made last week (stretching over three nights on television). The speech contains the political report of the 8th Regional Conference of the Baath Party. There is no direct reference to any Western country other than the United States and Japan.

3. If we are to look for remarks which might refer to Britain, we could perhaps summarise paragraph five.

"The capitalist western world contains some countries which are not aggressive and imperialist. There are some with a good attitude to the Arab world, and with which we do not have differences which obstruct the establishment of normal relations. The need to establish such relations with world peoples and countries includes establishing good relations with such western countries. Their advanced technology can speed up our development and may help us to express our particular views internationally.

However we must remember that these countries have intermingled relations with the USA and Zionist influence affects their policies. The recent call for European independence and unity of interests because of the need for energy may be to our advantage in encouraging a disengagement between these countries and the USA".

4. The remainder of the Presidents speech will probably be published in book form shortly and I will send you a copy. That he could undertake such a marathon television exercise demonstrates that he is now in better health. The interesting point is why he bothered to undertake this. After the first evening most of his audience were bored to tears.

*Yours ever*  
*Ian*  
I. McCluney

RESTRICTED

*Enter*  
*Mr Williams 22/3*  
*Mr Clark 22/3*  
*Mr Wright*  
*20/3*  
*24/3*  
*pa*

*SWB extracts*  
*at NBR 1/4*

*This appears*  
*to be a*  
*direct*  
*quote.*



British Commercial Office  
Shaheen Building  
Saadeon Street  
Baghdad

20 April 1974

ECO 6/13

S W Gardiner Esq  
CRE Div 4  
Dept of Trade  
1 Victoria St  
London SW1H 0ET

RECEIVED IN  
REGISTRY No 35  
29 APR 1974  
NBR 2/1

23/4  
pa

**CANADIAN MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND TRADE  
VISITS BAGHDAD**

1. Mr. Alastair Gillespie, Canadian Minister of Industry and Trade headed a Canadian official trade mission to Baghdad this week. I attach a copy of the press cutting reporting the visit.
2. Wheat is the main Iraqi import from Canada, and the press report mentions the conclusion of a three year contract. Iraq has also recently bought railway rolling stock from Canada and there are prospects for further sales of Canadian railway equipment here. A Canadian consulting engineering firm Howe International was recently awarded the design contract for the World Bank-backed Iraqi grain silos programme, although the field work here seems to have been sub-let to a British associate, Shoosmith Howe of Newbury. There should be good prospects for Canadian contractors experienced in building silos, and for manufacturers of grain handling equipment. Apart from these items, the Canadians will have been told about Iraq's huge across-the-board development programme and the same list of projects the Iraqis present to all trade missions from industrialised countries.
3. The mission did not contact us, but I ran into some of them by chance at the Baghdad Hotel. They were being bear-led around Baghdad by the same young man from Protecel (Sd. Mahamad Kassar Khalil) who shepherded us during the negotiations on our resumption of diplomatic relations last week. Being led by a Minister, however, they rated, and got, sirens and a police motor cycle escort to their entalcade of official chevrolets, which we- fortunately- were spared. This treatment is something to avoid if you comeback with a Minister.
4. I am sending copies of this letter and its enclosure to Graham Burton in Middle East Dept., FCO; Ivan Scott in ECGD, and Commercial Dept., Ottawa.

Yours sincerely

Rnc

P. Donovan.



# Possibility of promoting Iraqi-Canadian cooperation reviewed

## CANADIAN DELEGATION BEGINS CONTACTS

The Canadian economic, industrial and technical delegation led by Mr. Alastair Gillespie, Minister of Industry and Economy began contacts yesterday with various ministries with view to promote economic relations and cooperation between Iraq and Canada.

The contacts of the Canadian delegation concentrated on the possibilities of Canada's participation in the execution of the projects and programmes of the National Development Plan.

The delegation expressed extreme readiness to secure Canada's participation in this field.

After a two hour meeting with the Canadian delegation, Sd. Hikmat al-Azzawi, Minister of Economy hoped that the volume of trade exchange between Iraq and Canada would be doubled and economic cooperation would be activated. He said they were various fields in which Canada could participate especially in expanding the prospects of trade and economy between the two countries.

Meanwhile, the Canadian Minister stressed his country's desire to promote and expand its economic relations with Iraq.

Dr. Jawad Hashem, Minister of Planning reviewed yesterday with the Canadian delegation the fields in which the Canadian enterprises can participate within the context of the new national development plan projects and within other economic activities in the light of the extensive funds of the 1974/75 Investment Programme.

Dr. Hashem stressed the importance of training Iraqi technical cadres at the Canadian enterprises to manage and bring to success the national development process. He listened to what was stated by the Canadian delegation about the prospects of Canada's participation in executing development projects and rendering the required technical know-how.

Sd. Nihad Fakhri, Minister of Transport also discussed

with the Canadian delegation the fields in which Canada can take part in the development plan projects in the fields of air, land and sea

## JEBOURI RECEIVES JONZO

Sd. Hamid al-Jebouri, Minister of Information received at his office yesterday Dr. Kinano Jonzo member of the Italian diplomatic mission to the European Council and member of the Franco-Arab Friendship Association.

During their interview the Minister and the guest reviewed the outstanding role undertaken by Iraq on the internal and external levels.

## MAIN WATER PROJECT IN DIYALA COMPLETED

The Ministry of Municipalities has completed the unified water project of Al-Huwaish in the governorate of Diyala for a cost of ID 230,000.

The project, which has a capacity of 7,000 cubic metres of water a day, includes a modern water purification plant, a main building for the station, distillation equipment, precipitation pools water storage and pipe networks leading to the villages.

The Ministry is to invite next week tenders for the execution of al-Thawra water project in the governorate of Nineveh having a capacity of 700,000 gallons of water a day. The project which is to serve 17,000 citizens includes a purification plant, pumps, pipes, distillation equipment, and a pumping pipe extending for 13 kilometres and a water storage large enough for 100,000 gallons.

transport. The Canadian delegation expressed readiness to specify the fields where Canadian enterprises can participate within the context of promoting cooperation between the two countries.

Five subcommittees namely industrial, oil and minerals, trade and Banking, agricultural and transport representing the Iraqi and Canadian sides began their meetings yesterday noon to work out the bases to be agreed upon by both sides for cooperation formula and the way of expanding it.—INA

In a press conference, held yesterday at Baghdad Hotel and attended by a large number of press and news agency correspondents and reporters Mr. Alastair Gillespie reviewed the possibility of cooperation between Iraq and Canada in the commercial field, especially as Canada is a developed country which can extend technical assistance in various industrial fields including the supply of complete industrial plants.

"Canada had developed a high technical standard in the fields of transportation, railways and pipelines," he said.

"Several matters related to the Iraqi-Canadian trade relations were discussed and the possibility of opening a Canadian Embassy in Baghdad was considered. The possibility of concluding a long-term trade agreement was reviewed," he pointed out.

"Meanwhile, a three-year agreement has been concluded for the purchase by Iraq of Canadian wheat," he said.

In reply to questions by the pressmen, Mr. Gillespie said, "Canada can buy oil, dates and other products from Iraq."

In reply to a question by Baghdad Observer on the acquaintance by Canadians of Arab affairs in general and Iraqi affairs in particular, the Canadian Minister said, "this has been among the reasons for the visit to Iraq by the Canadian ministerial delegation."

"Canada has supported the Arabs' rights at the UN," he confirmed.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN



Note for the file

IRAQ/LEBANON

RECEIVED IN REGISTRY No 35 20 MAY 1974 NBR 2/1
---

The Lebanese Chargé d'Affaires called 19 April.

2. Kurds: Jean Alpha feels that the leadership may be weak in the face of Kurdish intransigence. Neither Turkey nor Iraq wish to see the autonomy proposals work and will therefore do what they can to encourage a non-settlement impasse. Also the Russians, wary of their relations with Iran, and perhaps the final outcome if the Kurds gain some independence are not supplying the Iraqi Army with the right equipment to conduct mountain warfare.

3. Under secretary Jamali called all Arab Ambassadors to a meeting last week. He asked if their governments would make statements supporting the central authorities in Iraq. To comment that the affair had previously been thought to be "internal" he replied that it was a matter of concern now for the whole area. The Tunisian Ambassador said to Jamali, in front of the others, that the Iraqi Baath were known to have cells in every capital of the Arab World, devoted to interfering with the normal processes of government abroad. Until Iraq ceased to interfere with internal politics abroad they could hardly expect the Arab governments to comment on Iraq's internal problems.

4. Jean Alpha further said that, despite Saddam Hussein's remarks to the press about Iraq's friendship with Lebanon, there were niggling sores. Lebanon needed Iraq more than the other way round, but Iraq caused problems in Lebanon e.g. the proposed Beirut to Baghdad March of Palestinians, and the strange incidents in the Iraqi Embassy recently. Nevertheless his instructions were to ignore these matters and build the best possible relationship with Iraq.

5. His Ambassador Shammas had a good entree to Baathi leadership circles,, and though "right hand men of Saddam Hussein" were two a penny some reporting of value could be done from Baghdad.

6. Speaking of the Army he said political control was weak there and the regime had cause to fear the military. Any commander returning triumphant from the North would make a good Vice-President. I said our contact with the military had improved in recent months. They seemed to want more training with us. He thought this indicated just how bad the army organisation was following years of Russian help - which they had found wanting.

I. McCluney  
30 April 1974



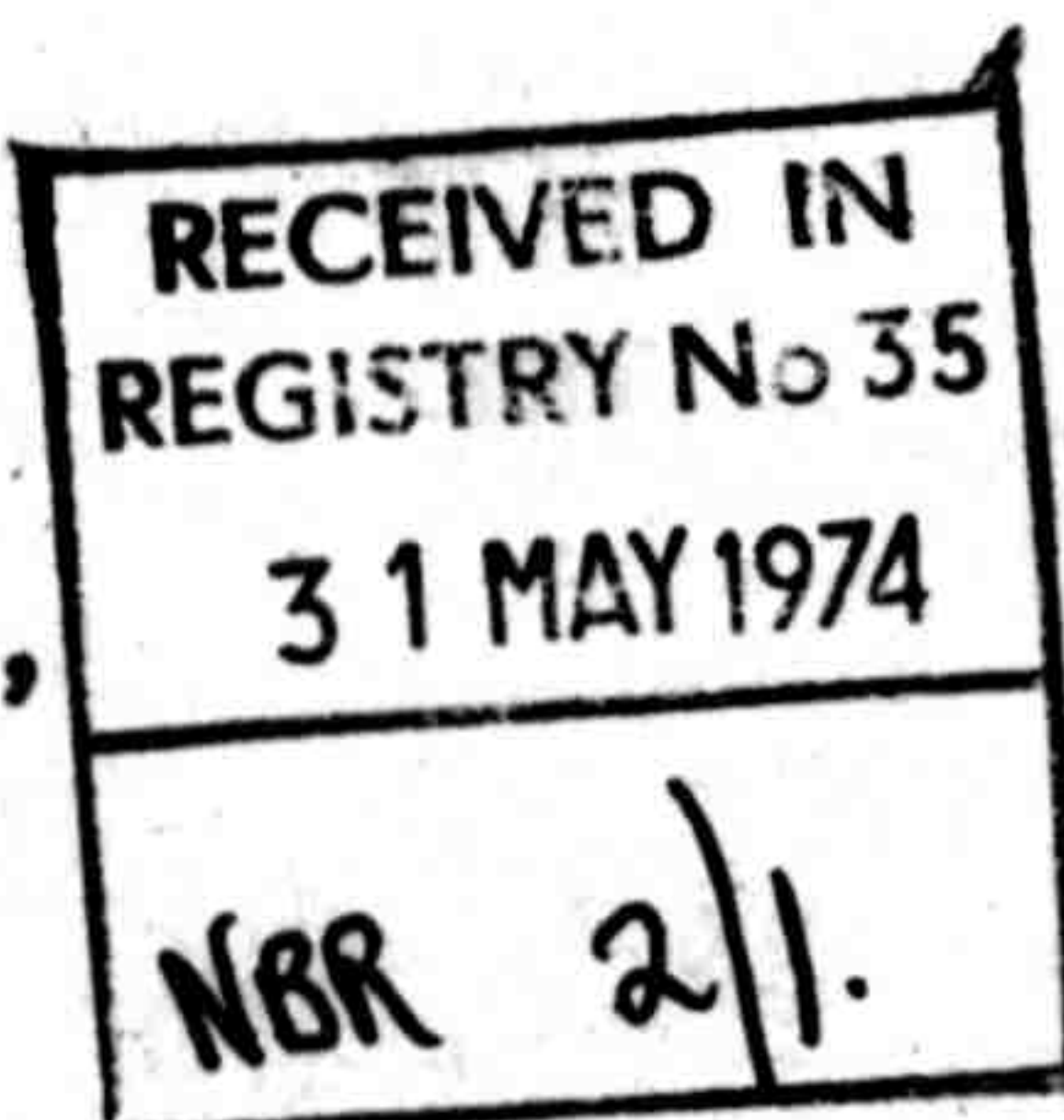


British Embassy  
Baghdad

21 May 1974

Ref: 1/1

G.S. Burton Esq.,  
Middle East Department,  
Foreign & Commonwealth Office,  
London SW1.



EX 3/5  
AB  
JA

*Dear Graham,*

**PRESIDENTIAL VISITS TO IRAQ FROM SUDAN, UGANDA AND MAURETANIA**

In the first ten days of May 1974 the following African leaders visited Iraq:

- ✓ President Mohtar Ould Daddah of Mauretania
- ✓ President Idi Amin of Uganda
- ✓ Vice President Taha Maarouf of Sudan

Their visits of course overlapped, to the extent that dinners and parades at the airport took up most of the waking hours of the diplomatic corps and Iraqi protocol staff.

2. No clear picture emerged of the results of any of these visits, but it is fairly evident that they each hoped to obtain financial assistance from Iraq for their development. It seems unlikely that any direct funds were granted or promised. Iraq claims to have donated ID 30m to the Arab Fund for Economic Development in Africa. The following is an extract from a press editorial on the subject (Baghdad Observer 6 May 1974) which seems to summarise their policy.

7. "The policy Iraq is pursuing towards the African countries is one of both paying back some of the favour which those countries have done to us by ranging sides with our issues of destiny and of fostering joint ties with them and cementing their independence and their struggle to free themselves from the clutches of neo-colonialism and to embark upon a new life based on progressive foundations. It is to be noted in this respect that Iraq has contributed 30 million dollars to the Arab fund for economic development in Africa. Further, Iraq has offered financial aid as well as expert knowledge to the Democratic Republic of Somalia for building a joint oil refinery. Iraq also has economic agreements with several states in the African continent."

/3.....



CONFIDENTIAL

2.



3. The procession of presidents continues, with a visit now from President Salem Robaya Ali of the PDRY. As a fellow Arab and close friend of the Russians he no doubt hopes for more generous treatment.

4. An argument for a series of visits now may be to detract attention from the Kurdish troubles. Certainly each visitor will have been asked to state his support for the central government in their handling of the dispute. The Sudanese at least obliged. Vice President Taha Maarouf said on returning home that the self rule law (with other "advances") was evidence of Iraqis efforts to raise the living standards of the Arab.

*Yours ever*  
*lan*

I. McCluney

c.c. Chancery Dakar  
Chancery Kampala  
Chancery Khartoum  
Near East & North Africa Dept.  
East African Department  
West African Department

CONFIDENTIAL



British Embassy  
Khartoum

UNCLASSIFIED

7 June 1974

I McCluney Esq  
BAGHDAD



*2/1/2*  
*12*

PRESIDENTIAL VISITS TO IRAQ FROM SUDAN, UGANDA AND MAURETANIA

6.

1. A small point for the record: in your letter of 21 May to Burton you twice mention Vice-President "Taha Maarouf" of Sudan. In fact, the Sudan has two Vice-Presidents, Mohammed El Baghir Ahmed who visited Iraq: and Abel Alier, whose primary responsibility is the Southern Region.
2. I am copying this letter to Burton and to the Chanceries at Dakar and Kampala.

J F S Phillips

Copied to:

G S Burton Esq  
MED, FCO

Chanceries: Dakar  
Kampala



Mr Wright

Mr Burto



IRAQ

1 Signor Francese of the Italian Embassy called on me this morning to discuss the situation in the YAR. I took the opportunity of asking him about a report I had seen in the MEED about the conclusion of an agreement between Iraq and Italy to exchange oil for Italian participation in development projects. He had no information, but promised to enquire and let me know. He observed that he understood that bilateral oil deals of this kind were not very popular in the West. I agreed that this was so. I added that we were, however, interested in keeping ourselves informed of any agreements of this kind concluded with Iraq as we would hope to obtain a share for ourselves in Iraq's economic development. Did he think that the Iraqis had asked for any kind of Government guarantee of firms' performance? He did not know, but thought that there would be no problem for Italy as most of the firms likely to be concerned were state-owned enterprises for which the Government could give a guarantee.

T J Clark  
Middle East Department

18 June 1974



9

GR 60

RESTRICTED

CYPHER CAT A

FM BAGHDAD 270630Z



TOP COPY

RESTRICTED

TO ROUTINE FCO TEL NO 233 OF 27 JUNE 1974 INFO ALGIERS  
SADDAM HUSSEIN VISITS ALGIERS.

3/7  
pa

IT WAS ANNOUNCED LATE 25 JUNE THAT VICE PRESIDENT SADDAM HUSSEIN WOULD VISIT ALGIERS 26 JUNE FOR A FEW DAYS OF FRIENDLY TALKS WITH BOUMEDIENNE.

2. HE IS ACCOMPANIED BY F.M. SHADHIL TAQA.

3. AIRPORT SECURITY ON HIS DEPARTURE WAS MUCH HIGHER THAN USUAL.

GIDDENS

FILES  
M E D  
N E N A D  
PRIVATE SECRETARY  
P.S. TO P U S  
MR CAMPBELL  
MR WEIR

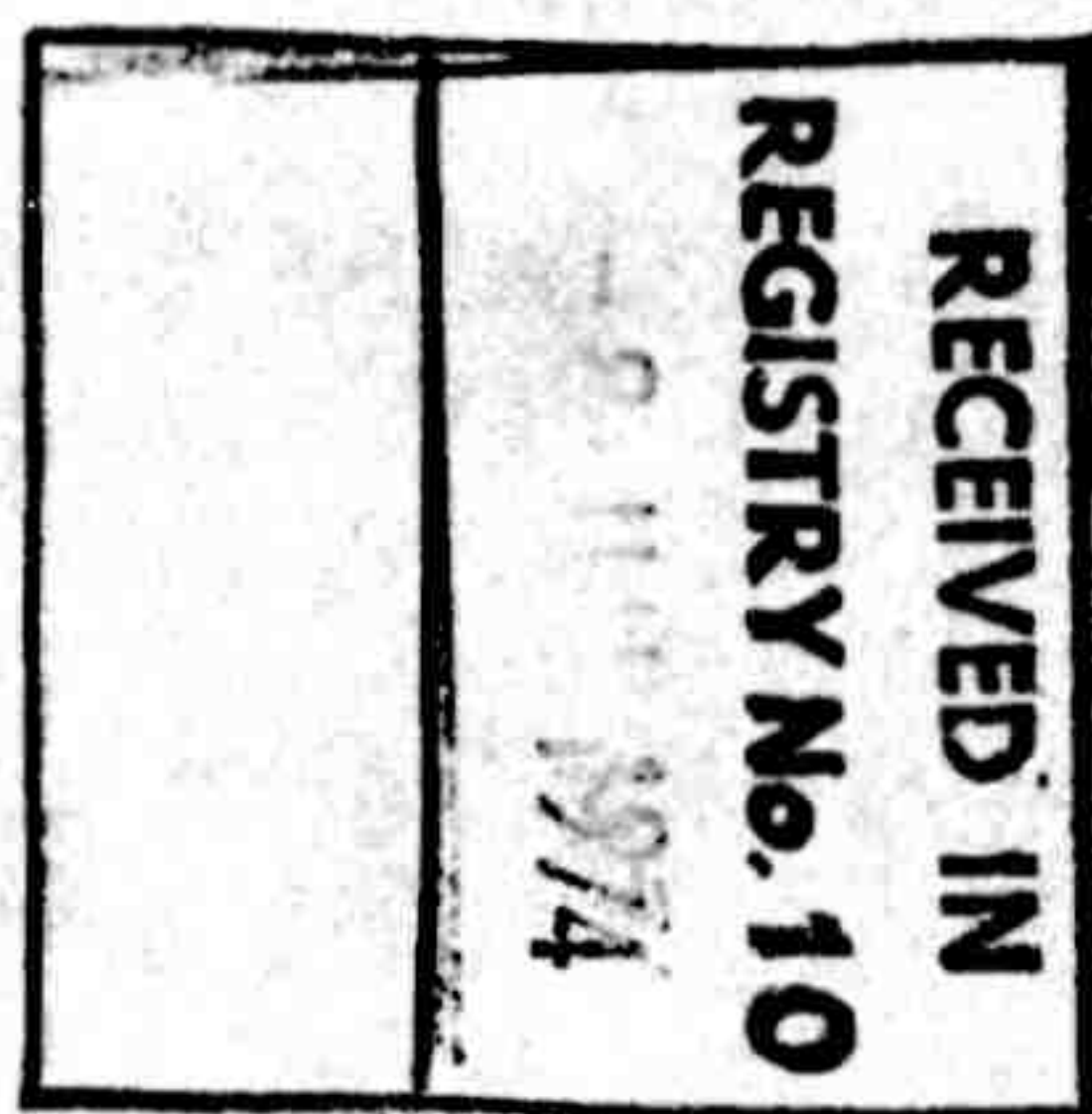
RESTRICTED



CONFIDENTIAL



3/31



BRITISH EMBASSY

ALGIERS

B.P. 43 ALGER GARE

1 July 1974

A J M Craig Esq  
Near East & North Africa Department  
FCO

Dear James,

IRAQ/ALGERIA

1. Saddam Hossein, Vice-President of Iraq, left here over the weekend, after a 4-day visit.
2. In the course of it, he had a number of talks with Boumediène, saw some other Algerian Ministers, refused a provincial tour on the grounds that he would prefer to talk business in Algiers, and made a declaration to the press.
3. The latter is of interest in itself, since the Algerians normally like communiqués. I cannot offer an explanation for its absence this time. Saddam Hossein's declaration to the press contains the usual anti-imperialist verbiage, but has four points of substance, one for Iraq and three for Algeria:-
  - i. according to this statement, one of the questions raised during the talks was the situation in the Arabian Gulf, "a vital part of Arab territory", which is the object of external designs related to the general imperialist plan in the region. It was agreed that this question, particularly safeguarding the Arab character of the Gulf, should occupy a special place in the subjects of concern to all Arab states.
  - ii. The Iraqi Vice-President praised the role of the Algerian sister and brother Boumediène in non-alignment.
  - iii. The talks covered "the strengthening of co-operation" with African countries in the political, economic and technical fields, and it was agreed that "this question constitutes a common Arab responsibility". [This could imply pressure on Iraq to give more to Arab funds for African development].
  - iv. Saddam Hossein praised the gigantic accomplishments of the Algerian revolution in all fields.
4. A propos of point i. I have heard, but cannot confirm, that the Algerians are anxious to move towards a resumption of full diplomatic

/relations

CONFIDENTIAL





relations with Tehran and the appointment of Ambassadors.

5. If I get something out of my helpful Iraqi colleague when the dust has settled, I will write again. Meanwhile, the Algerians are putting it around that Saddam Hossein asked to come here (this would certainly be consistent with his going to Tripoli). My Egyptian colleague believes this, and tells me that the Iraqis are anxious to break out of their isolation in the Arab world, and that Algeria and Libya are the obvious first points of call in this process given past Iraqi policies.

Yours ever  
John Robinson

J A Robinson

cc: Chanceries at:

Baghdad  
Tehran





2/27

Mervyn T Jones Esq  
Eastern European and Soviet Department  
FCO

Dear Mervyn.

HUNGARY/MIDDLE EAST

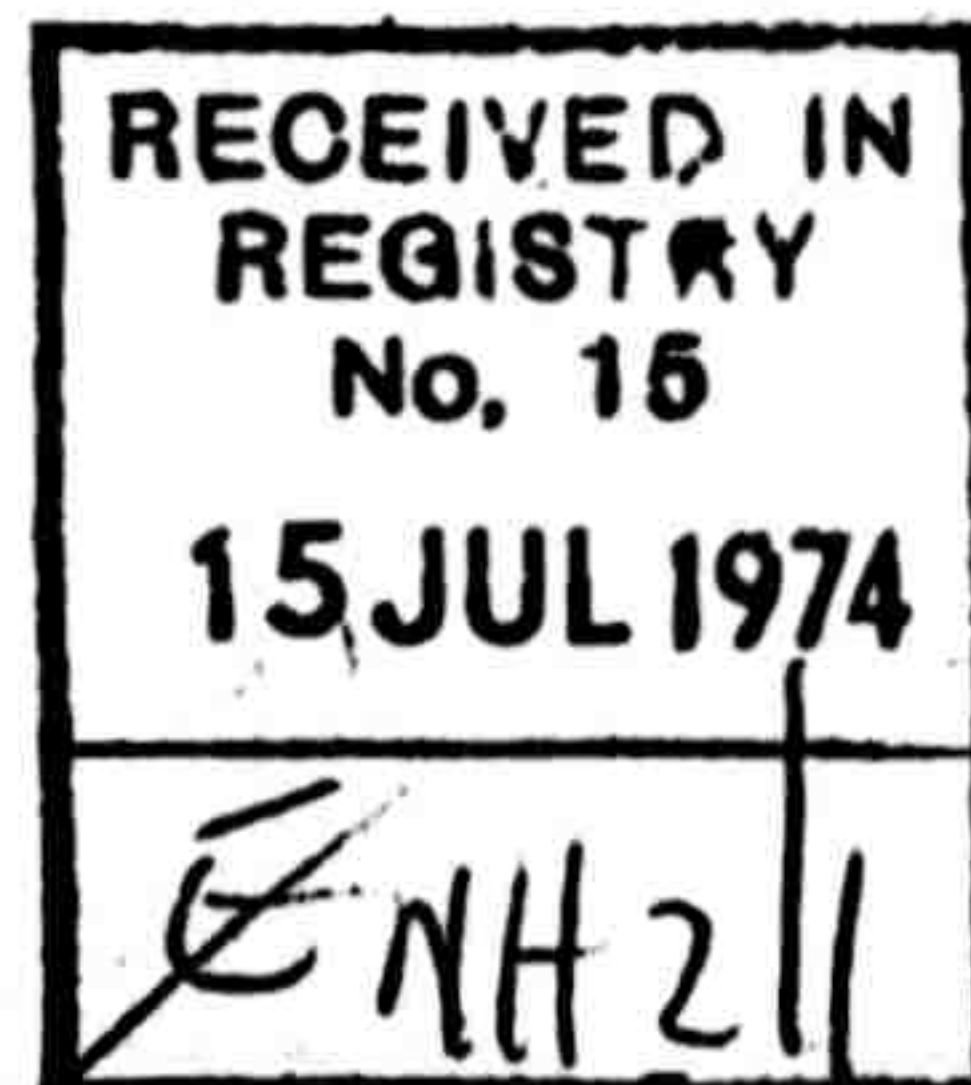
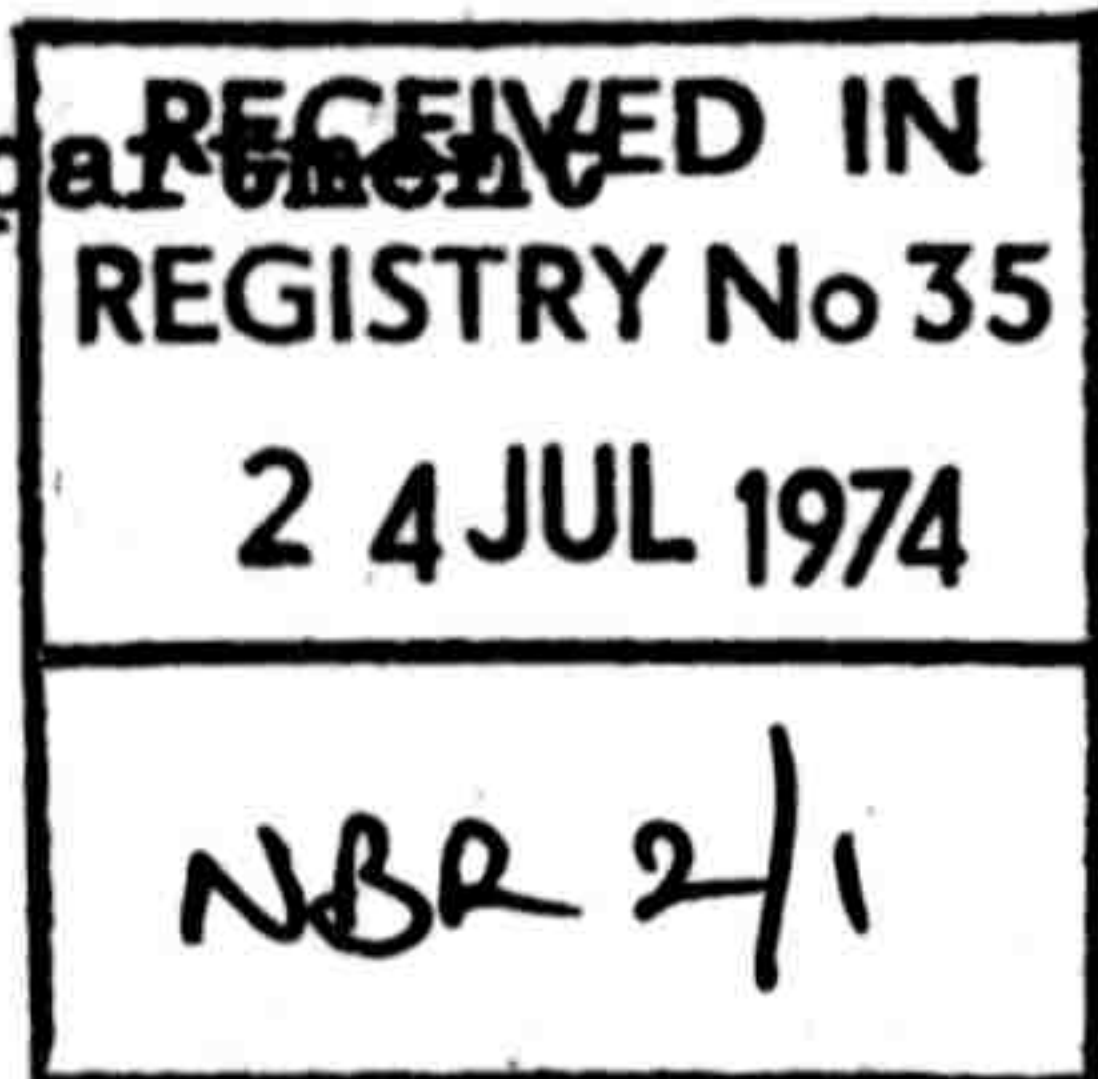
The last six weeks have seen a number of visits each way between Hungary and the three Middle Eastern countries, Syria, Iraq and Lebanon. The Hungarian Foreign Minister, Frigyes Puja, visited Syria and Iraq between 28 May and 6 June, at the invitation of the respective Foreign Ministers. His visits were said to be in return for previous inward visits to Hungary. The timing of Puja's trip seemed curious, and his purpose not altogether clear, since his visits virtually coincided with the visits of Mr Gromyko, who in turn seemed to be trying to catch up after Kissinger, and one would think that Puja's impact on the two countries concerned must have been correspondingly reduced. He is, however, reported to have had a meeting with Gromyko in Damascus on 29 May. He was received also by President Assad and President Hassan Al-Bakr.

2. Puja's visits were fully publicized in the Hungarian press, and the texts of both communiqués were published here. These do not contain anything new, but I enclose copies for the record. He duly invited his respective hosts to visit Hungary sometime. On his return to Budapest on 6 June Puja said in a statement that his task in going to Syria and Iraq at that time had been to exchange views on the current problems on the international situation and their bilateral relations "and to agree on what is to be done in the next period." In a reference to internal development, Puja said that he had found that in both countries great efforts were being made to solve the economic problems, to which end they had asked the help of the socialist countries and "As for Hungary, we already take part in this work but we

/shall

BRITISH EMBASSY  
BUDAPEST

11 July 1974







shall have even greater opportunities in the future." He added that, "As regards political relations we came to the conclusion that the time has come for visits on higher levels. On this we agreed."

3. Puja's visits were followed up by visits between 29 June and 9 July to Syria, Lebanon and Iraq by a Hungarian Party delegation led by Árpád Pullai, Secretary of the HSWP Central Committee and the member of the Political Committee in charge of foreign relations. Pullai's delegation went at the invitation of the Ba'ath parties in Syria and Iraq, and of the Central Committee of the Lebanese Communist Party.

4. In Syria, the Syrian side in the talks was headed by Jassar Askari, described as a member of the National leadership of the Ba'ath Party and Head of the Foreign Office. The Hungarian delegation was also received by President Assad.

5. The visit to Lebanon was perhaps of greater interest, if only because Hungarian connections with that country are much fewer than with Syria and Iraq. The Lebanese side in the talks was headed by Nicolas Sauj, Secretary-General of the Lebanese Communist Party. Pullai paid an official call on Jassar Arafat, President of the Palestinian Liberation Organisation. He also met Kamal Jumblatt, President of the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party. At a reception given at the Hungarian Embassy some Lebanese Government Ministers are said to have been present, including ex-Prime Minister Abdallah Jaja, the Minister of Trade and Economics, Dr Nazih Bizri, and Minister of State Ali Khalil, together with representatives of "progressive and democratic parties and organisations."

6. In Iraq the Iraqi side in the talks was headed by

/Ali





Ali Ghannam, member of the National Leadership of the Ba'ath party. Pullai was also received by President Hassan Al-Bakr, and called on the First Secretary and members of the Iraqi Communist Party Central Committee.

7. I attach copies of the communiqués issued on all three visits. The Syrian one was a good deal longer and more detailed than the communique about Puja's visit. It seems to us that these two sets of communiqués taken together give slightly greater emphasis to support for the Palestinians than has hitherto been the case in Hungarian statements.

8. Meanwhile, Hungary has received inward party delegations from all three Arab countries. A delegation of the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party headed by Vice-President Abbas Khalaf visited Budapest at the beginning of June, at the invitation of the Patriotic People's Front. At the beginning of July a delegation of party workers of the Iraqi Communist Party led by Selim Ismael, a member of the Central Committee, visited Hungary at the invitation of the HSWP. A few days later two delegations from the Iraqi and Syrian Peace Councils were here, discussing cooperation with the Hungarian National Peace Council.

9. It is hard to assess what the real significance is of this unusual flurry of activity. If it has been matched by similar activity in other East European countries, it might possibly be an indication of Communist interest in the run-up to the next Middle East conference in Geneva.

10. The Egyptian Ambassador has told me that it was originally intended that Puja would visit Egypt as part of his same journey to Syria and Iraq, but the timing was not then convenient, and he will now be going there later this year.

cc: Chanceries: BEIRUT  
DAMASCUS  
BAGHDAD  
MOSCOW  
Research Department

*Yours*  
*Saïd*  
D F B Le Breton



**Communiqué on Mr Puja's talks in  
Syria**

-----

Joint communiqué on Frigyes Puja's official talks  
in Syria /p.3./

Frigyes Puja, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Hungarian People's Republic, paid an official friendly visit to Syria between May 28 and June 2, 1974 at the invitation of Abdel Halim Khaddam, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Syrian Arab Republic. A joint declaration has been issued on Frigyes Puja's visit and on his talks with Syrian statesmen.

The declaration says, among other things, that the talks were held in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding; the negotiating parties discussed the relations between the two countries; they had an exchange of views on the current international problems of mutual interest.

Surveying the bilateral relations, the two Foreign Ministers noted with satisfaction that co-operation between the two countries was developing on the basis of friendship and mutual respect. They expressed their firm resolution to further develop these relations in every field in accordance with the interests of the two peoples and the two countries, and in order to consolidate international peace and security.

The two parties declared their support for the peoples fighting for their freedom and independence, including the Palestine Arab people carrying on a just fight to regain their legitimate national right to their land. The two Foreign Ministers paid special attention to the latest developments of the Middle East situation.

The Hungarian party highly valued the fight waged by the Syrian Arab people and the armed forces to liberate the territory of their country. The Hungarian People's Republic supports the firm standpoint represented by the Syrian Arab Republic in its diplomatic activity in the interest of the just and lasting settlement of the problem of the Middle East.

The two parties expressed their view according to which the recent agreement on the disengagement of troops on the Syrian front was only the first step on the road leading to the complete withdrawal of Israeli troops from all occupied Syrian territories. They declared that after the realization of the disengagement of troops initiatives must immediately be taken for steps and measures leading to a full and just settlement and ensuring the implementation of the UN resolutions.

The two parties pointed out the significance of the positive developments that had taken place in Europe in the recent years and that greatly contributed to the relaxation of international tension. They emphasized the importance of the European security and co-operation conference, and the fact that there was a connection between the security of the European continent and that of the Mediterranean and the Middle East.

Frigyes Puja invited Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Abdel Halim Khaddam to pay a visit to the Hungarian People's Republic. The invitation was accepted with thanks. The date of the visit will be fixed later through diplomatic channels.



## **Communiqué on Mr Puja's visit to Iraq**

~~Communiqué on Frigyes Puja's visit to Iraq /p.2./~~

Frigyes Puja, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Hungarian People's Republic, paid an official friendly visit to the Republic of Iraq between June 2 and 6 at the invitation of Murtadha Said Abdul-Baqi, Member of the Revolutionary Command Council and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Hungarian People's Republic was received by Ahmad Hasan al Bakr, President of the Revolutionary Command Council of the Republic of Iraq, Secretary-General of the Regional Board of the Socialist Party of Arab Revival.

Frigyes Puja, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Hungarian People's Republic; and Murtadha Said Abdul Baqi, Member of the Revolutionary Command Council and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq, had official talks in an atmosphere of friendship, confidence and understanding. In the course of their talks they discussed bilateral relations between the two friendly countries, current international problems of mutual interest to the two parties, and the situation in the Arab area. The two Foreign Ministers had an exchange of views on the policies of their countries concerning economic, social and cultural development.

The Hungarian party highly appreciated the progressive, anti-imperialist and anti-reactionary attitude of the Republic of Iraq, as well as its consistent fight for the

**/consolidation**



SAH HIFLAP. June 7, 1974. .

consolidation of its political and economic independence, the securing of control over its natural resources and for their benefit of the people and for national aims. The Hungarian Party condemned the attempts of imperialism and reaction endangering national sovereignty of Iraq.

The two Ministers expressed their satisfaction at the development achieved in the political, economic and cultural relations between their countries and expressed their resolution to further develop these relations in harmony with the interests of the peoples of Hungary and Iraq and those of the progressive forces of the world.

They found with satisfaction that the relations between the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party and the Socialist Party of Arab Revival were developing and becoming closer. This is an important means for the consolidation of friendship and co-operation between the two peoples, and it contributes to the joint fight waged against the forces of imperialism, Zionism and reaction, and for the independence, national sovereignty and social development of peoples.

Studying the international questions, the two parties paid special attention to the situation of the Arab area. They emphatically condemned the aggression against the Arab nation and the Palestine Arab people, the aggression that endangered international peace and security. They agreed that they had to stand up against aggression, as well as against the attempts aimed to make aggression a lasting one.

The two Ministers declared that in that region the danger threatening world peace could not be eliminated and security could not be restored as long as the occupied Arab territories have not been liberated and the Palestine Arab people have not gained their independence and sovereignty. The two parties declared their full support for this fight.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq highly appreciated the material and moral support given by the Hungarian People's Republic and other socialist countries in the just fight of the Arab people.

The Iraqi party gave information about the tense situation in the region of the Persian Gulf. The two parties declared their support for the Arab people fighting against the machinations of imperialism and reaction in that region. They found that the military pressure exerted upon the Arab people of the Persian Gulf endangered the security, the social and political development and the progressive achievements in that region. The two parties agreed that the conflicts must be settled by agreements, international accords, and on the basis of the United Nations Charter and of international law.

The two Ministers highly appreciated the peace policy of the socialist and other peace-loving countries, their fight for international détente, just peace and the consolidation of international security.

The two parties gave expression to their conviction that the earliest possible conclusion and the success of the work of the European security and co-operation conference were important.

/ ~~overleaf~~ / from



June 7, 1974.

From the point of view of the consolidation of peace and the relaxation of tension not only for Europe but for the whole world. The Iraqi party highly appreciates the efforts made by the Hungarian People's Republic in the interest of the success of the security conference.

The two parties pointed out that resolute measures must be taken to check the armaments race and to realize disarmament, as well as to ban the use of nuclear weapons. The Iraqi party highly appreciated the activity of the socialist countries in this field.

Both the Hungarian People's Republic and the Republic of Iraq follow with great attention and sympathy the heroic fight of the Vietnamese people. They are of the opinion that the Paris agreement concerning the termination of the war in Vietnam and the restoration of peace was an important step on the road leading to peace and security in Indo-China. They condemned the Saigon administration for the continuous violation of the Paris agreement. They assured the peoples of Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia of their full support in their just fight for freedom, independence and sovereignty.

The two parties support the people of Korea in their fight for the unification of their country, as well as the proposals made by the Government of the Korean People's Democratic Republic to achieve this aim.

They condemn racial discrimination in South-Africa and Rhodesia. They support the just fight of the peoples of Angola, Mozambique, Bissau-Guinea and the Cape Verde Islands, Namibia and Zimbabwe for freedom and national independence.

The two parties found that the positive results of the visit paid to Iraq by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Hungarian People's Republic reflected the good and cordial relations between the two friendly countries. They agreed that the mutual visits of the leaders of the two countries contributed to the further development of friendship and co-operation between the two peoples.

The Hungarian Foreign Minister expressed his thanks to the Foreign Minister, the Government and the people of Iraq for the hospitality accorded to him and his suite. He spoke with appreciation of the achievements he saw during his visit to the Republic of Iraq in the fields of political, economic and cultural life.

Foreign Minister Frigyes Puja invited the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq to pay a visit to the Hungarian People's Republic. The Foreign Minister of Iraq was pleased to accept the invitation. The date of the visit will be fixed later.

Discussion between the Foreign Ministers of Hungary and Bulgaria /p.2./

On his way home from the Republic of Iraq, Frigyes Puja arrived on Thursday morning in the Bulgarian People's Republic for a few hours' friendly visit.

/ overleaf /



- 3 -

NÉPSZABADSÁG, July 4, 1974.

Communiqué on the visit paid to Syria by the delegation of the HSWP Central Committee /p.5./

The delegation of the HSWP Central Committee headed by Árpád Pullai, Secretary of the Central Committee, paid a visit to the Syrian Arab Republic between June 29 and July 2, at the invitation of the national leadership of the Baath Party.

The delegation was received by Hafez Assad, President of the Republic, Secretary-General of the National Leadership of the Baath Party.

The delegation saw Deputy Secretary-General Abdullah Ahmar, and Mohammed Jaber Barbouche, Deputy Secretary-General of the Syrian leadership of the Party; and called at the Syrian General Trade Union Federation.

The delegation visited Palmyra and Kuneitra, liberated from Israeli occupations, and saw the construction of the Euphrates dam.

The delegation of the HSWP had talks with the delegation of the Baath Party headed by Jassar Askari, Member of the National Leadership of the Party, Head of the Foreign Office.

The talks were held in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding. The delegations had an exchange of views on co-operation between the HSWP and the Baath Party. The HSWP delegation informed its negotiating partner of the implementation of the resolutions of the 10th congress of the Party, and of the efforts made by the Hungarian people in the interest of the relaxation of international tension.

The delegation of the Baath Party gave information about the fight of the Arab masses against imperialism and Zionism. It outlined the struggle of the Party, the revolutionary achievements of the Syrian Arab Republic and the results achieved in the laying of the material and economic foundations and in the increasing of the defence potential. The further development of these achievements is aimed to promote the progressive social changes, to cross the plans of imperialism and Zionism and to liberate the occupied Arab territories. The delegation spoke about the democratic political changes, the establishment of the progressive national front, the election of the National Assembly and the local councils and about the experiences of their activity as well. The delegation gave expression to the resolution of the Syrian Arab Republic to use every means at its disposal to liberate the occupied Arab territories and to achieve the restoration of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian Arab people.

The delegation of the HSWP highly appreciated the results achieved by the people of the Syrian Arab Republic and their resolute stand against the aggressive Israeli plans. The delegation supported the fight of the Arab people for the liberation of the Arab territories and for social progress. It highly appreciated the efforts made by the Baath Party in the interest of bringing about progressive Arab unity.

The two delegations discussed the international questions of topical interest with special regard to the Middle-

/ overleaf /



MPSZABADSÁG, July 4, 1974.

Last situation. Due to the machinations of Israel and its supporters the situation in the Middle East is tense and this fact hinders the settlement and endangers peace in that area. The two delegations again declared that the complete withdrawal of Israeli troops from the occupied Arab territories and the restoration of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian Arab people were basic conditions of a lasting and just settlement of the Middle-East crisis. The delegations of the HSWP and the Baath Party declared their resolute support for the fight of the Arab people of the Palestine and condemned every endeavour aimed against the liberation movement of Palestine. They condemned Israel's racial, retaliatory policies and the violation of human rights. They consider the disengagement of Syrian-Israeli troops as the first step towards the Middle-East settlement and the establishment of lasting and just peace. They took a stand for the earliest possible convening of the Geneva peace conference with the participation of all the parties concerned, and for the implementation of the Security Council resolution No. 338.

Developments in Europe show that the conditions of peace and security, serving the interests of the peoples of the continent, are becoming more and more consolidated. European peace is closely connected with the peace and security of peoples of other regions, including the Middle East. The two delegations support the earliest possible holding of the closing stage of the European security and co-operation conference on the highest level.

The delegations of the HSWP and the Baath Party declared their support for the fight waged by the Vietnamese people for the implementation of the Paris agreements. They declared their solidarity with the national and social liberation movements of Asia, Africa and Latin America. They condemned the terror of the fascist military junta against the Chilean patriots and demanded the release of the leaders of the people's unity.

The delegations of the HSWP and the Baath Party expressed their satisfaction at the fruitful development of solidarity and co-operation between the two countries and parties, and declared their determination to further develop and intensify friendly relations.

- - -

The delegation of the HSWP arrived in Lebanon /p.5./

Having concluded their four-day visit to Syria, the Hungarian party delegation headed by Árpád Pullai, Secretary of the HSWP Central Committee, arrived on Tuesday afternoon from Damascus to Lebanon.

The delegation was seen off by Jassar Askari and Isam Naib, Members of the Leadership of the Baath Party; and leaders of the Syrian Women's Association, the Trade Union Federation, the Peasants' Association and other mass organizations.

The Hungarian party delegation arrived in Beirut on Tuesday at the invitation of the Lebanese Communist Party Central Committee.

/ overleaf /



PEABADSÁG. July 10, 1974.

Communiqué on the visit paid by the delegation of the HSWP Central Committee to Iraq /p.3./

The delegation of the HSWP Central Committee headed by Árpád Pullai, Secretary of the Central Committee, paid a visit to the Republic of Iraq between July 5 and 9 1974 at the invitation of the national leadership of the Baath Party.

The Hungarian delegation was received by Ahmed Hassan Al-Bakr, Secretary-General of the regional leadership of the Baath Party, President of the Republic of Iraq. The delegation called at the Secretariate of the National Progressive Front and at the Ministry of Planning. Talks were held with the delegation of the national leadership of the Baath Party headed by Ali Ghannom, member of the national leadership. In the course of the talks, held in a cordial and friendly atmosphere, the two delegations exchanged their views on the relations between the two parties and countries, and on the current questions of the international situation with special regard to the Middle East and the Arab area.

The delegation of the HSWP Central Committee informed its negotiating partner of the implementation of the resolutions adopted by the 10th congress, of the results achieved by the Hungarian people led by the party in socialist construction.

The Hungarian delegation was informed of the successes achieved by the people of Iraq led by the Baath Party in the consolidation of political and economic independence, the raising of the living standard of the population and in the rapid-sided development of the country. The Hungarian delegation highly appreciated the efforts made by the revolutionary leadership of the country, the Progressive National Front in order to secure autonomy to the Kurd people by democratic means and within the framework of the Republic of Iraq. The two parties condemned the imperialist, reactionary interventionist attempts aimed against the autonomy of the Kurd people and to prevent progressive social changes in Iraq. The Hungarian delegation declared its support for the rightful Iraqi efforts aimed to protect the territorial inviolability and the borders of the country from the interventionist attempts of the imperialist, reactionary circles and against the attacks of the reactionary wing of the Kurd movement.

The delegations of the two parties declared their solidarity with the Palestinian Arab people in their just fight for the restoration of their legitimate national rights. They condemned the repeated Israeli attacks against Arab territories and assured the Arab peoples of their support in the fight waged to regain the occupied territories.

The two delegations expressed their concern about the attacks aimed against the territory of Iraq and condemned the imperialist, reactionary plans aimed to establish foreign rule over that area.

The two parties support the efforts aimed to consolidate European security and co-operation, and are of the opinion that these efforts contribute to the relaxation of tension all over the world.

/ ~~overleaf~~ /

The



NÉPSZABADSÁG, July 10, 1974.

The two parties declared their support for the struggle of the people of Vietnam. They assured the Chilean patriots of their solidarity in the fight against the fascist military junta. They declared their solidarity with the national and social liberation movements in Asia, Africa and Latin America.

~~The delegations of the two parties emphasized that~~  
solidarity and friendly co-operation between the Soviet Union, the socialist countries and the Arab peoples must be strengthened in the fight against imperialism and for social progress.

The two delegations expressed their determination to further strengthen and intensify relations between their countries and parties by means of the implementation of the co-operation agreement between their parties.



No. 151

PRESS SUMMARY

BRITISH EMBASSY, BUDAPEST

Saturday, July 6, 1974.

Today's "Népszabadság"

NÉPSZABADSÁG:

Communiqué on the talks between the delegations of the HSWP and the Lebanese Communist Party.	1-2
Hungarian party delegation for Paris.	3
János Borbándi has left for Mongolia.	3
Reception given on the occasion of the national day of Venezuela.	3
Iraqi and Syrian delegations conclude visit to Hungary.	4
Hungarian-Senegalese air agreement.	4
Hungarian leaders visit the Argentine Embassy to express their sympathy.	4
Hungarian - West-German talks.	4

NÉPSZABADSÁG, July 6, 1974.

Communiqué on the talks between the delegations of the HSWP and the Lebanese Communist Party /p.2./

The delegation of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party headed by Árpád Pullai, Secretary of the HSWP Central Committee, paid a visit to Lebanon between July 2 and 5 at the invitation of the Lebanese Communist Party Central Committee.

The Hungarian delegation had talks with the delegation of the Lebanese Communist Party headed by Nicolas Sami, Secretary-General of the Lebanese sister party. The talks on questions of mutual interest were held in a comradely and friendly atmosphere.

The delegation of the HSWP highly appreciated the fight of the Lebanese Communist Party for the interests of the masses, democracy, the unity of progressive, patriotic forces and for national sovereignty. The delegation condemned the attacks against Lebanon. These attacks are aimed against the Lebanese and the Palestinian Arab people as well.

The representatives of the Lebanese Communist Party Central Committee welcomed the results achieved by the Hungarian people led by the HSWP in socialist construction. They expressed their appreciation for the consistent internationalist policy of the Hungarian people which serves the consolidation of

/ overleaf /



HÍRSZABADSÁG, July 6, 1974.

the unity of the countries belonging to the socialist community, the relaxation of international tension, and the interests of peace and security, and supports the just fight of the Arab peoples including the Arab people of the Palestine.

The delegations of the HSWP and the Lebanese Communist Party emphasized the significance of friendship and co-operation between the countries of the socialist community, first of all the Soviet people, and the Arab peoples in the fight waged by the Arab peoples against imperialism and Israeli aggression. This fight is waged for the liberation of the Arab territories occupied by Israel and for the restoration of the legitimate national rights of the Arab people of the Palestine. The delegations of the two sister parties declared their solidarity with this fight of the Arab peoples including the Palestinian Arab people led by the Palestinian Liberation Organization.

The representatives of the two sister parties support the efforts aimed at the continuation of the Geneva peace conference. On the basis of the withdrawal of all Israeli troops from all occupied Arab territories, and on that of the restoration of the national rights of the Arab people of the Palestine, these efforts serve the establishment of just and lasting peace in the Middle East.

Surveying the current international developments, the two delegations emphasized the need for unity and co-operation between all anti-imperialist and progressive forces. The two parties support the further consolidation of the unity of the international communist movement and are of the opinion that the conditions are maturing for the convening of a new international conference of the sister parties. The representatives of the two sister parties declared their support for the fight waged by the Vietnamese people for the implementation of the Paris agreements. They declared their solidarity with the peoples fighting for national liberation and social progress. They condemned the terror of the fascist military junta against the Chilean patriots and demanded the release of the leaders of the People's Unity.

The two delegations support the earliest possible holding of the security and co-operation conference serving the interests of the European peoples and world peace.

At the talks, held in an atmosphere of sincerity and mutual understanding, the delegations of the two parties expressed their determination to further develop and intensify friendship and co-operation between the two sister parties.

\*

During their visit to Lebanon the Hungarian party delegation had a friendly exchange of views with Jasser Arafat, President of the Palestinian Liberation Organization. They saw Kamal Jumblatt, President of the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party.

The delegation of the HSWP Central Committee left Beirut on Friday evening /July 5th/. The delegation was seen off at the airport by Karim Mrue and Khalil Debs, Members of the Lebanese Communist Party Political Committee, Secretaries of the Central Committee; and other leaders.



CONFIDENTIAL

TOP COPY

BY C

FROM ROME TO FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE

No 17 Saving  
19 July 1974*Indicates some of the complications  
we may face. I have written  
to Mr Gardiner CRE 4 PKW  
Pa. 26/7*

CONFIDENTIAL

Addressed to Foreign and Commonwealth Office telegram  
no 17 Saving 19 July 1974

Repeated for information Saving to:

DTI (for CRE4)  
Baghdad  
Cairo  
Damascus  
Jedda  
Tehran  
Beirut  
BonnParis  
Brussels  
The Hague  
Luxembourg  
Dublin  
Copenhagen  
Washington

## VISIT TO ROME OF IRAQI FOREIGN MINISTER

1. Foreign Ministry (the brothers Attolico) gave a Community briefing on Taqa's visit, which took place on 16 and 17 July. They explained that the main purpose of the visit had been to sign a bilateral economic agreement, the groundwork for which had been laid in two visits to Iraq by Bensi, Italian Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs; in January (Milton's letter to Hunt, MED, of 28 January) and May, plus an intervening fact-finding mission by 15 Italian industrialists. Moro had been invited to Iraq for the signature, but not wanting to be "burnt to a crisp" (it is not clear whether climatically or politically) had invited Taqa to Rome instead.

Economic Agreement

2. This is a 10 year agreement on economic and technical cooperation between Italy and Iraq - apparently the first such agreement which Italy has signed with an oil-producing country. In it, the Italians undertake to help the Iraqis in various ways with their economic development, and the Iraqis (who are Italy's third or fourth largest supplier of crude oil) undertake to increase their supplies of oil to Italy "in relation to the development of economic cooperation between the two countries". Asked whether this was not blackmail Giacomo Attolico commented that since the Iraqis were unyielding about price, the Italians were in any case unlikely to want more oil from Iraq than they now received.

3. Protocols (apparently confidential) to the agreement list a number of projects for which the Italians will consider providing assistance of one kind or another, some industrial, some agricultural and some public works projects. The Iraqis had shown particular interest in land reclamation. They had also asked for technical assistance, and there are provisions in the agreement for the /establishment

CONFIDENTIAL



establishment of training centres in Iraq, scholarships for Iraqis in Italy, and the loan of Italian experts to Iraq. The Italian press comments that the total amount of aid promised is worth about Lire 2,000 milliard (about £3 billion). Officials commented that this that nothing has been promised, that the Iraqis want everything quickly or not at all and that in consequence no more than a fraction of the projects is likely to be realised.

4. The Iraqis had asked for credit facilities. The Italians had been reluctant to give these, in view of their own economic situation and the fact that Iraq, "not having lessened her production of oil for a moment", must have plenty of money in the kitty. The Italians nevertheless agreed to make available "credits fournisseurs" repayable over five years at low but unspecified interest rates, up to a maximum 20% of the total price of each project, and up to Lire 50 milliard (£75 million) for 1975, the first year of the plan.

5. An Iraqi-Italian mixed commission is to meet regularly to manage the selection and development of individual projects.

6. Attolico gave an assurance that agreement transgressed no EEC regulations. But his tone was defensive, and seemed to indicate sensitivity over whether the Italians were acting within the spirit, at least, of the Community. He may also have been hinting that Bensi had conceded more points than his officials would have wished.

#### Political Affairs

7. There was also a political discussion between Moro and Taqa, which concentrated on the Middle East situation and the Euro-Arab dialogue (but included a stream of invective from Taqa about Iran). On the Middle East question, which Taqa called "the Palestine question", the Italians commented that he took a rigid and uncompromising position, saying (if the poor interpreter was to be believed) that Iraq could not recognise Israel no matter what frontiers were agreed. Taqa was very mistrustful of the United States, and took a negative view of the disengagement agreements, saying that the Arabs divided into "those who were happy with disengagement" and "those who were true friends".

8. On the Euro-dialogue, Taqa said he was in favour of the developing relations between Europe and the Arabs, and was in principle in favour of the dialogue. But he was suspicious of the role of Kissinger, who had been angry about the dialogue but seemed now to welcome it. This suggested there must be a catch, and the Iraqis needed time to reflect. Taqa also voiced suspicions of the "new Franco-German axis" in Europe.

MILLARD

FILES

MED

WED

EID

FRD

ENERGY DEPT

NENAD

NAD

MR CAMPBELL

MR WEIR

MR MORGAN

SIR D MAITLAND



RESTRICTED

(13)



BRITISH EMBASSY

BAGHDAD

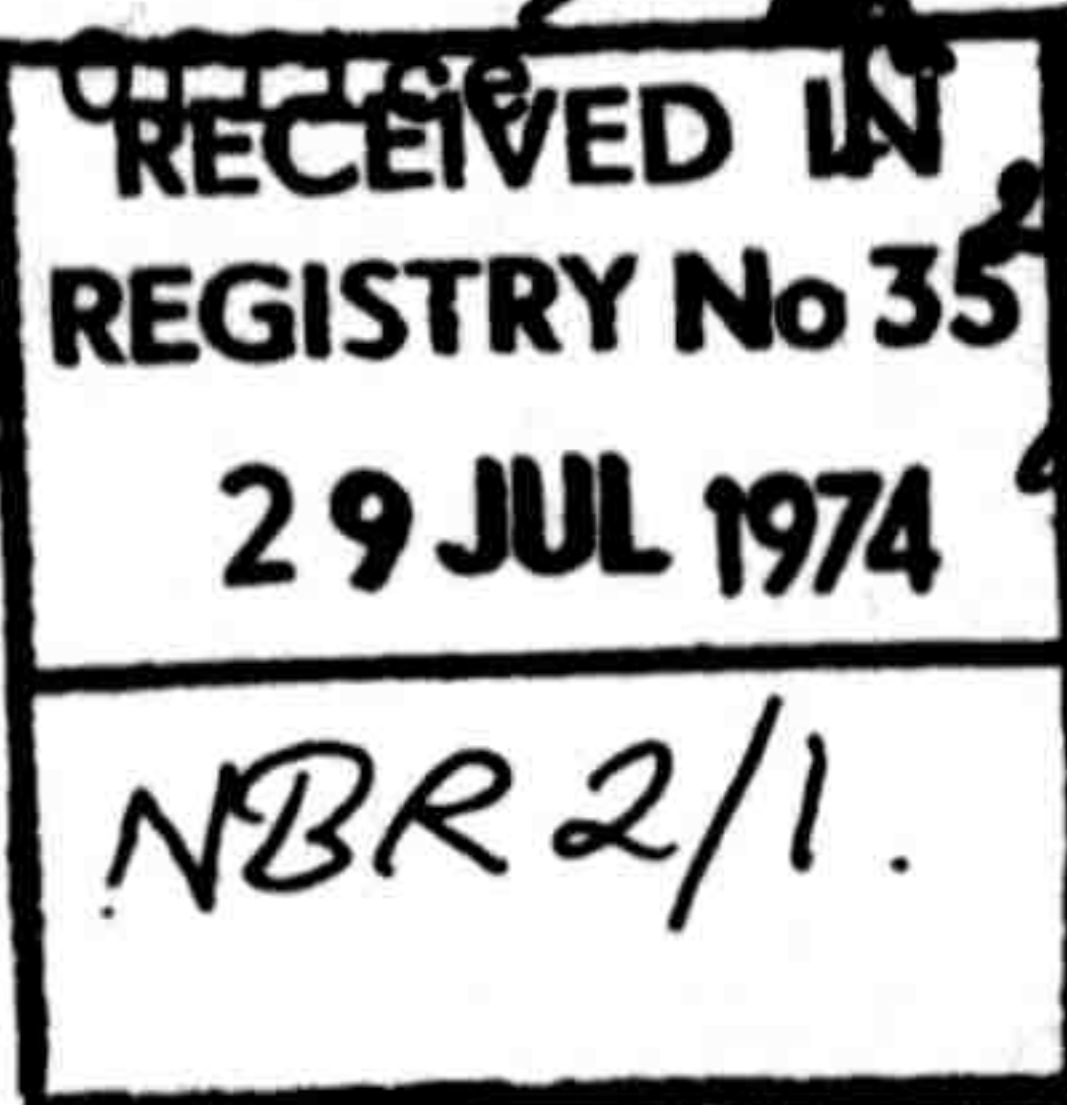
22 July 1974

3/14

P R H Wright Esq  
Middle East Department  
Foreign & Commonwealth Office  
LONDON SW1A 2AH

*See latwick*

NEW ZEALAND MISSION



*W 26/7*  
*Mr. [unclear]*  
*Cy. [unclear]*  
*then pr.*

1. Members of the Mission, the subject of your letter NB 3/1 of 15 July to Donald McCarthy, called here in the course of their visit to Baghdad.

2. They reported that they had been well received by officials - they were fortunate in this since there were a large number of visitors in town for the 14 and 17 July celebrations. Their purpose seems to have been to try to interest the Iraqis in investment, direct or otherwise, in New Zealand. The response, predictably, was largely negative - that until Iraq's very considerable development plans were much nearer completion it was unlikely that the country would be looking seriously for investment opportunities abroad.

*Yours [unclear]*

*Rich Giddens*

R G Giddens

c c Chancery  
Wellington

RESTRICTED



CONFIDENTIAL



3/31

RECEIVED IN  
BRITISH EMBASSY  
REGISTRY No 35

29 JUL 1974

NBR 2/1

ALGIERS

B. P. 43 ALGER GARE

15 July 1974

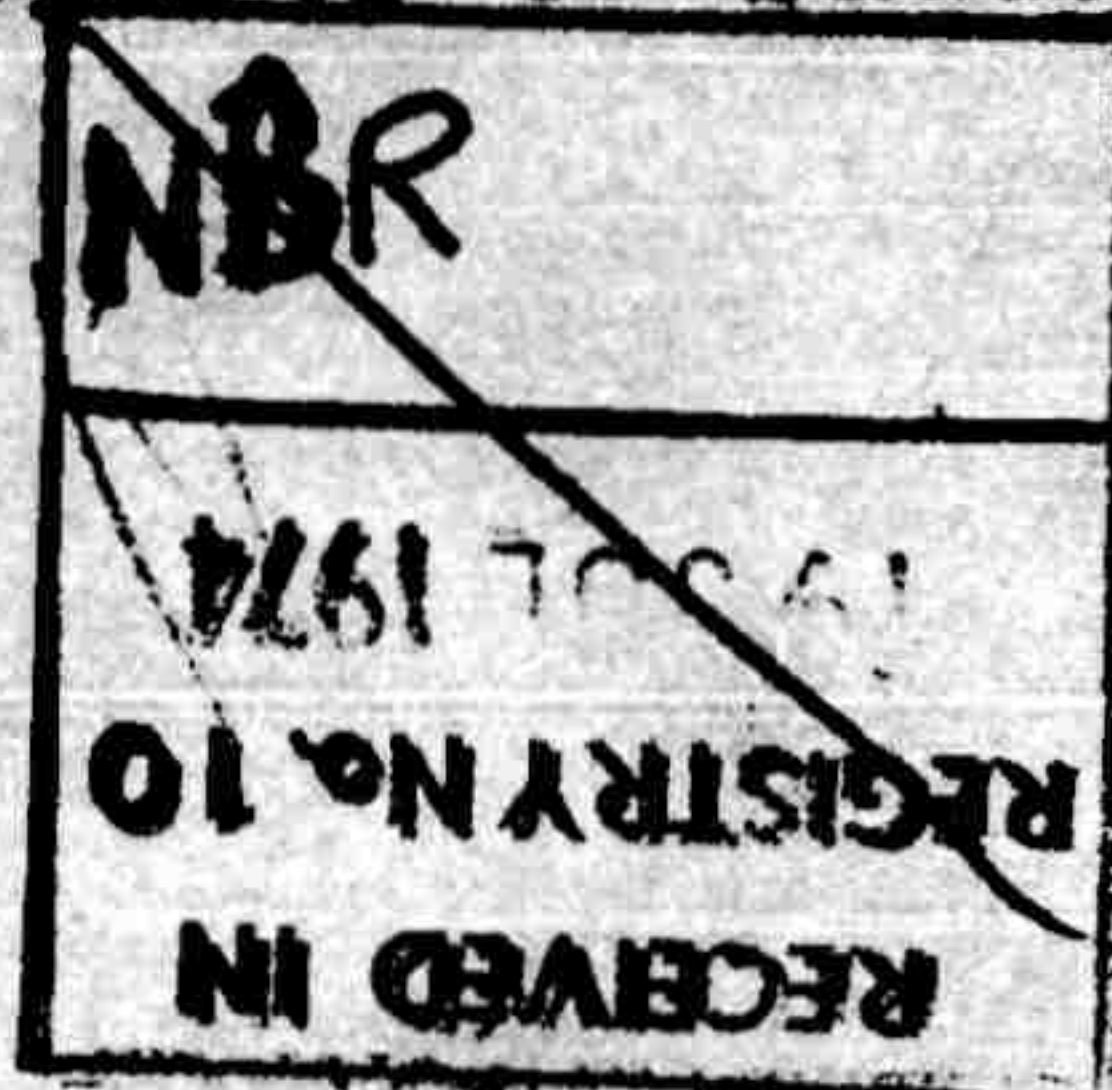
A J M Craig Esq  
Near East & North Africa Department  
FCO

Dear James,

IRAQ/ALGERIA

1. A footnote to my letter of 1 July, reporting Saddam Hussein's visit here, and particularly (paragraph 3 i. of my letter) his reference to discussion of the "Arabian Gulf".

2. The original transcript of Saddam Hussein's declaration to the press referred specifically to Iranian designs on this vital Arab territory. The reference to Iran was excised from the Algerian press reports of Saddam Hussein's remarks.



Yes even

John Robinson

J A Robinson

cc: Chanceries at:

Baghdad  
Tehran

CONFIDENTIAL

pa  
29/7

14

Alan ME  
MED file

Enver  
Mr 19/7

10



Gregg Dept

1. Am Neill (see para 7)

2. Am Neill (see para 7)

3. cc PUSD 125 9/10/74  
(12)  
Economics & Research D.  
Defence D.

DA/1/2/G.

CONFIDENTIAL

From: Lieutenant-Colonel J Need, WFR

RECEIVED IN  
REGISTRY No. 38  
12 JUL 1974  
ME 12/326/1

RECEIVED IN  
REGISTRY No. 35  
30 JUL 1974  
NBR 2/1

British Embassy  
PO Box 858  
ADDIS ABABA

25 June 1974

Colonel B Dalton, IMA, OBE (Ret'd)  
Ministry of Defence (D14a)  
Main Building, Whitehall  
LONDON SW1

R. L. L. L.

per k per

Cc of Jim D/En  
Mr Burton MED  
A per  
2/1/7

Dear Colonel:

1. On 20 June the Somali Charge d'Affaires (Mohamed M Garad) called to pay what he described as a courtesy visit. This is perhaps unusual between a Charge and a DA but they have no service attache here and we had talked previously on two or three occasions at diplomatic receptions.
2. Most of the conversation was about the state of Ethiopia and about the Ogaden dispute. On the latter subject Garad was very good humoured but showed little regard for logic and was adamant that Somalia's case is based on concern for her separated brethren. I suggested that Somalia would gain advantages in the fields of economics and of communications if she could have even a part of the Ethiopian territory that she claims: he admitted the advantages (and mentioned particularly the benefit of a direct land route Mogadishu-Hargeisa) but would not admit that these were motives. He claimed that there is no oil in the Ethiopian Ogaden (gas, yes, but that is of little account) and that Tenneco have ended their operations there. I did not contradict him on Tenneco.
3. Garad made two points which I had not heard before. The first was that Somalia had in fact made no specific claim for Ethiopian or Kenyan territory because there was no point in adopting a definite position until negotiations could begin. He claimed that their maps showing the Greater Somalia represented simply the areas when Somalia predominate, and that there had never been any expressed intention of Somalia's demanding all that territory. As far as their claim on Ethiopia is concerned, he said that negotiation might be for the Haud, the Reserved Area of the Ogaden (both - he claimed - promised to Somalia by the British in 1956) and for one or two other similar areas. He seemed slightly indignant when I remarked that Ethiopia might regard such limited claims as the thin end of a wedge and waxed eloquent (he speaks very good English) about the benefits to both countries of a sensible, moderate agreement.
4. The second point concerns Somali oil. Garad volunteered the news that Iraq is to finance the construction of a refinery at Mogadishu which would process crude oil from Iraq. No work has started yet but the agreement is firm. He then went on to say that off shore exploration for oil is being conducted in the Hafun Bay area (1000N, 5100E) and



CONFIDENTIAL

- 2 -

that prospects look good. If they find commercial quantities they will have to think about siting the Iraqi refinery nearer to Hafun Bay. He seemed to have no doubts that Iraq would still provide the refinery, even though the outlet for her own oil would be much reduced. In this general context he thought that Berbera would become more important with the opening of the Suez Canal and that it could easily rival Djibouti as a bunkering port if Somalia had her own oil.

5. My next point is not from Garad but it bears still on Berbera. The French AMA told me on 21 June that the Russians are to be moved from Berbera to another harbour which is being constructed at Bandar Cassim 1120N, 4910E. He knew no more about the project and I have not yet been able to check it elsewhere but I wonder whether you have heard of it.

6. I am enclosing two extra copies of this letter so that you will be able to pass them on to DEI and to ADI(L) if you think there is anything sufficiently definite for them.

7. Finally, the South Korean DA (Colonel Park Young Soo) gave me a little more information on 24 June about North Korean activity in Somalia; it follows on from the conversation which I reported on 6 September 1973. Park says that the North Koreans have organised their guerillas into units as follows:

Belet Uen. Two battalions, one of Somali Somalis and the other of Ethiopian Somalis.

Hargeisa. One battalion containing a mixture of people from Somalia and from the FTAI.

Kisimayu. One unit (less than a battalion) containing people from Somalia and from Kenya.

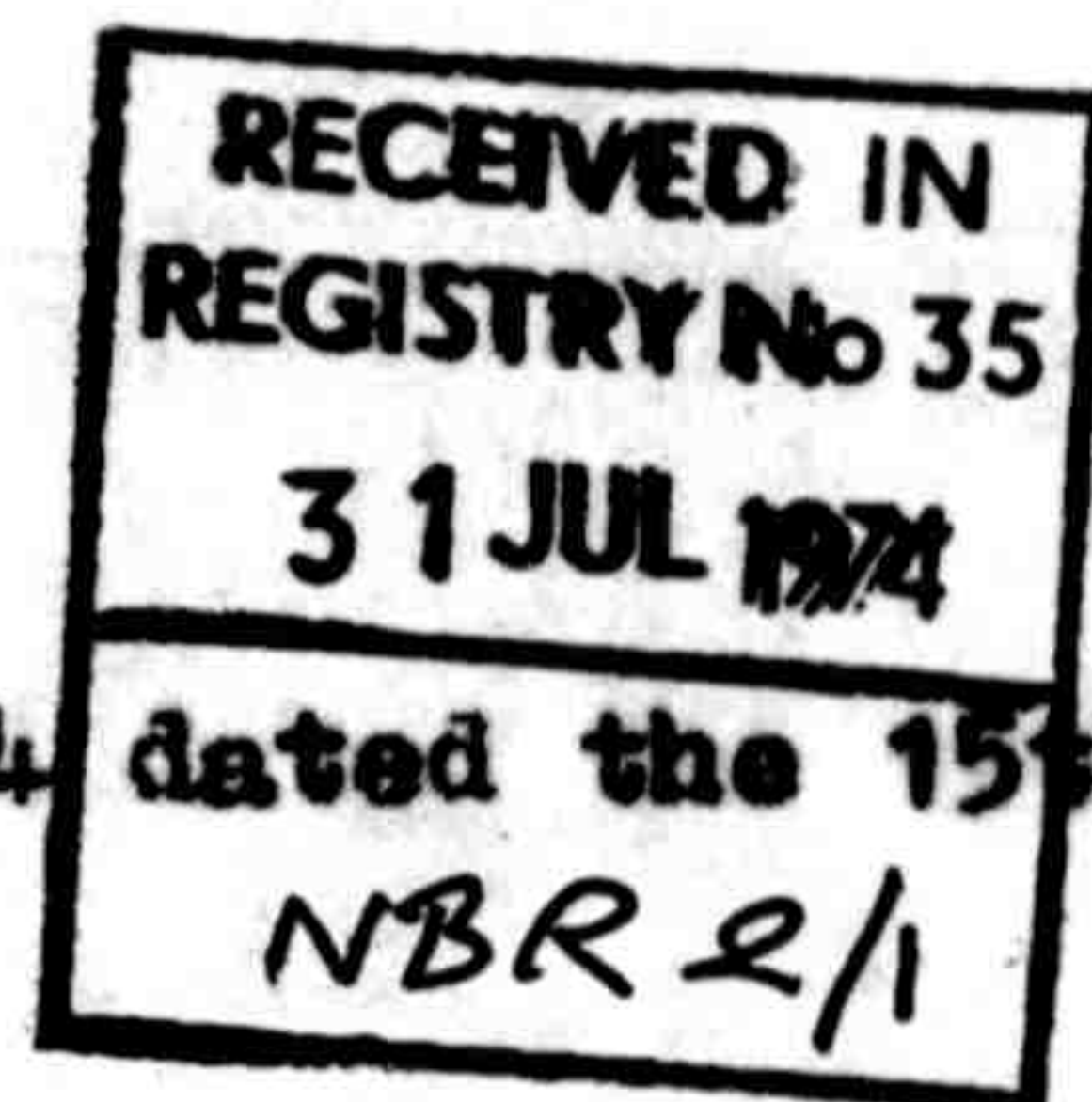
These units are not designed for independent action but they would be used in conjunction with regular military operations. I cannot comment on this report because I have no knowledge of Park's sources, but he is likely to know as much as most people here about the local North Koreans.

Yours sincerely  
John

cc Mogadishu (Chancery)  
DA, Nairobi  
DA, Khartoum  
EAD, FCO  
Chancery file

CONFIDENTIAL





Translation from Official Gazette No. 2364 dated the 15th of June 1974.

Decision No. 636.

In the Name of the People,  
The Revolutionary Command Council,

In pursuance of the provisions of paragraph (a) of Article 42 of the Interim Constitution and in view of the consent given by the President of the Republic to a proposal by the Minister of Finance, the Revolutionary Command Council decided, at its meeting held on the 6th of June 1974, to enact the following Law.

**Iraqi Fund for External Development  
Law No. 77 of 1974.**

**Article 1.**

1. By this Law, there shall be established an Iraqi financial institution which shall have a juristic personality and be independent financially and administratively. The institution shall be known as "The Iraqi Fund for External Development" and shall be referred to hereinafter as "the Fund".

2. The Head Office of the Fund shall be at the City of Baghdad, and it may establish branches or offices or appoint agents outside the region according to the requirements of its activities.

**Article 2.**

The Fund shall serve to finance a part of the development plans by establishing, expanding or evolving development projects in Arab countries and developing countries by means of :-

1. Granting medium or long-term loans to development projects in Arab countries and developing countries on easy conditions and granting priority to projects of a vital character in relation to the region or country concerned.
2. Share-holding in development projects particularly those which have the character of investment, and giving priority in this field to projects which have the character of Arab economic integration.
3. Encouraging the investment of public and private funds, directly or indirectly, in a manner ensuring the development of operations of economic development in Arab countries and developing countries and Arab economic integration, such as guaranteeing the shares and papers relating to the projects in which the Fund had already invested some of its funds, for facilitating the circulation thereof.
4. Making available technical experience and assistance in the various fields of economic development in Arab countries and developing countries.
5. Financing engineering studies and studies connected with the economic advantages of projects.

**Article 3.**

The capital of the Fund shall be Fifty Million Iraqi Dinars to be paid from the General Budget of the State.



**Article 4.**

The financial resources of the Fund shall consist of the following :-

1. The capital as shown in Article 3 of this Law.
2. The accumulated general reserve.
3. Loans to be obtained by the Fund to an extent not exceeding double the total determined capital and general reserve referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article.

**Article 5.**

1. The Fund shall finance a project with the consent of the Government of the country in which the project is carried out.
2. The Fund may stipulate that the money be disbursed on the purpose for which it was subscribed or for which it was loaned.
3. The Fund will carry out financing operations on such conditions and guarantees as it may consider suitable, subject to the circumstances of the project and its risks.

**Article 6.**

The Fund may pay the sums due from it in such currency as it may consider suitable and according to the need of the project being financed by it.

**Article 7.**

1. The affairs of the Fund shall be administered by a Board of Administration consisting of a full-time President with the rank of a Minister, six efficient and specialised members, and two reserve members, all of whom shall be appointed by a Republican Ordinance for a period of three years, which shall be renewable.
2. Subject to the provisions of Article 8 of this Law, the Board of Administration of the Fund shall be the higher authority of the Fund and it may vest some of its powers to the President of the Board or such person as may be authorised by him.
3. The Board of Administration of the Fund shall draw up the internal regulations of the Fund which must be approved by the President of the Planning Board.

**Article 8.**

The Fund shall be attached to the President of the Planning Board, President of the Committee to Follow-up Oil Affairs and the Implementation of Agreements. Decisions taken by the Board of Administration of the Fund relating to granting loans, shareholding, and taking of loans; and to approving the assessed budget and final accounts, shall be subject to approval by the President of the Planning Board.

**Article 9.**

Personnel of the Fund shall be subject to the rules of service, cadre and discipline to which personnel of Iraqi banks are subject.

**Article 10.**

1. The Fund shall have an independent budget.
2. The President of the Planning Board may appoint an Accounts Auditor for auditing the accounts of the Fund, provided that the final accounts are submitted to the Finance Control Bureau



for approval.

3. The financial year of the Fund shall commence on the 1st of January and expire at the end of December of each year.

Article 11.

The net profits of the Fund shall be entered in the account of the Fund's general reserve.

Article 12.

1. The Fund shall be exempt from all taxes and fees.

2. The Fund shall be excluded from the Law Organising the Profits of Semi-Official Establishments No. 83 of 1961 (amended) or any law substituting it.

Article 13.

Monies of the Fund and its assets shall be considered as public funds.

Article 14.

Regulations and instructions may be issued to facilitate the implementation of this Law.

Article 15.

This Law shall be published in the Official Gazette and the Ministers are charged with the implementation thereof.

(Sgd) Ahmad Hasan al Bakr,  
President,  
Revolutionary Command Council.

JJJ.  
18.7.74





PERMANENT MISSION OF IRAQ  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
14 EAST 79TH STREET  
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10021

RECEIVED IN  
REGISTRY No 35  
19 AUG 1974

NBR 2/1

UN/14

The Acting Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to enclose herewith a message from His Excellency Mr. Murtadha Saeed Abdul Baqi, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Iraq, on the occasion of the observance of the Week of Solidarity with Peoples of Southern Africa fighting for freedom, independence, and equal rights.

It would be appreciated if the text of this message could be circulated as an official document.

The Acting Permanent Representative of Iraq avails himself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretary-General of the United Nations the assurances of his highest consideration.

New York, June 10, 1974

H.E. Dr. Kurt Waldheim  
Secretary-General  
United Nations  
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10017

AA/rma  
Enc.





On the occasion of the observance of the Week of Solidarity with Peoples of Southern Africa fighting for freedom, independence and equal rights, I would like to re-affirm the unequivocal policy of the Republic of Iraq regarding freedom from colonial rule and racial discrimination.

One of the fundamental bases of Iraqi foreign policy is full support for the national liberation movements of the peoples struggling against colonialism, neo-colonialism, racial discrimination, and apartheid.

Iraq has stated in the different organs of the United Nations and in other international forums its solidarity with the national liberation movements in all parts of the world, and especially in Southern Africa, so as to fulfill their legitimate aspirations to freedom, independence from foreign domination, and to achieve equality between all peoples.

The policy of the Iraqi Government in this respect is based on a principle emanating from its firm belief that all national liberation movements struggling against colonialism and foreign domination to achieve independence and equality, are part of one movement throughout the world. Furthermore, Iraq is firmly committed to the cause of a



sister Arab People, namely, the People of Palestine, which has been driven out from its homeland for more than a quarter of a century. This injustice was perpetrated in order to establish in Palestine a foreign regime based on religious and racial discrimination and through the implementation of policies of domination, oppression and expansionism.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew the pledge undertaken by the people of the Government of Iraq to support the national liberation movements of the peoples struggling for freedom and equality until all forms of colonialism and racial discrimination are eradicated.



UNCLASSIFIED

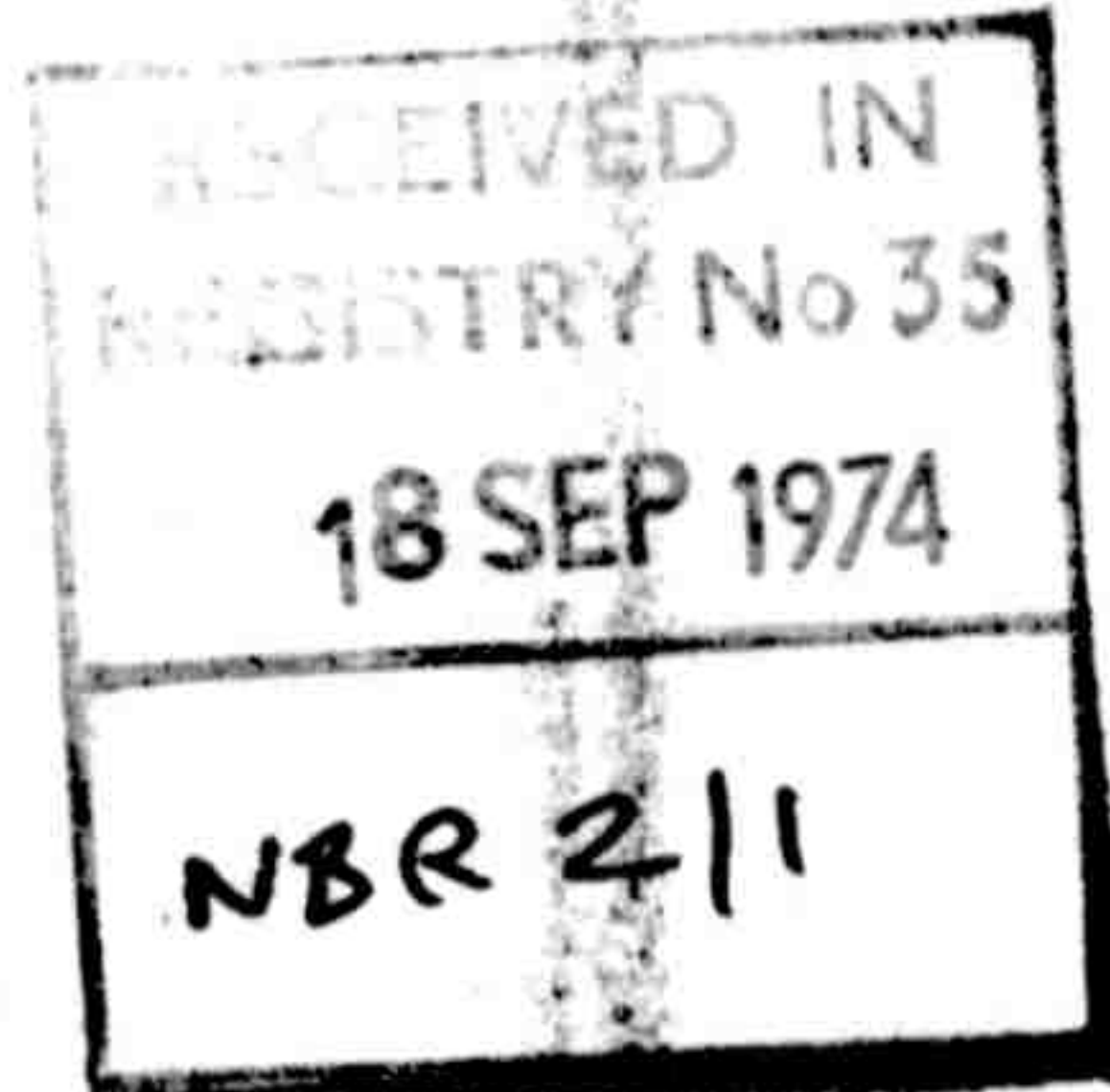
(18)

BRITISH EMBASSY

BAGHDAD

14 September 1974

3/41



Chancery  
KABUL

N

Dear Chancery

IRAQI LOAN TO AFGHANISTAN

1. It was reported by the Iraqi News Agency here on 3 September that Iraq has granted an ID 10 million loan to Afghanistan, at the close of the visit of the Afghani Minister of Planning, Mr Ali Ahmed Kharam.

2. According to the News Agency item, Afghanistan is the first state to receive a loan of this kind from the Iraqi Fund for Foreign Development, which was set up during last July with a capital of ID 50 million.

Yours ever

K D Temple

cc: Middle East Department  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office  
LONDON

*Handwritten notes:*  
h. [unclear] 15/9  
Enter.  
17/9

UNCLASSIFIED



RESTRICTED

GRS 65

CYPHER CAT/A

FM KHARTOUM 191040Z

RESTRICTED

RECEIVED IN REGISTRY N 35 23 SEP 1974 NBR 2/1
--

23/9  
1-1

TO PRIORITY BAGHDAD TELEGRAM NUMBER 001 OF 19TH SEPTEMBER 1974,  
AND TO ROUTINE FCO (NENAD), XFYOA 3/74 GR AND E4 AND OPG) AND  
EXPORT<sup>TCR</sup>ED (FOR JENKINSON).

FAIRLY RELIABLE SOURCE REPORTS THAT IRAQ GOVERNMENT HAS OR IS  
IN THE PROCESS OF AWARDING 10 MILLION DOLLARS TO SUDAN DESCRIBED  
AS A GIFT.

2. COULD YOU DISCREETLY ESTABLISH WHETHER CORRECT AND OBTAIN ANY  
DETAILS SUCH AS PURPOSE, TERMS, OR STRINGS ATTACHED.

PHILLIPS

FILES  
NENAD  
MED  
TRED  
FRD :  
MR CAMPBELL  
MR WEIR  
SIR D MAITLAND  
MR MARSHALL

COPIES TO:

MR JENKINSON ECGD  
CRE 4 DEPT OF TRADE  
OPG DEPT OF TRADE

RESTRICTED



EMBASSY OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF IRAQ

21, QUEEN'S GATE,  
LONDON SW7 5JG

RECEIVED IN  
REGISTRY No 35  
19 SEP 1974

NBR 2/1

No. 592

The Embassy of the Republic of Iraq presents its compliments to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and has the honour to advise that the Government of the Republic of Iraq have decided to nominate a candidate for the membership, next year, of the Atomic Energy Agency's Board of Governors, in the forthcoming elections scheduled for September 1974, following the expiry of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's membership.

The Embassy of the Republic of Iraq would refer, in this respect, to the resolution adopted by the Council of the Arab League in its session of 11 through 16 March, 1972, to support the Republic of Iraq in the above nomination following the expiry of the membership of Saudi Arabia, who was elected to represent the Middle East in September, 1972.

It is of note, in this respect, that the Iraqi Atomic Energy Commission supervises the implementation of a programme including the utilization of a 'swimming-pool' - type reactor in research and the production of isotopes. The Commission also supervises the utilization of the various sources of radiation in the fields of medicine, agriculture, industry and scientific research. It has also founded the Institute of Radiation and Atomic Medicine, in Baghdad, and equipped it for diagnosis, treatment and

/medical





**EMBASSY OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF IRAQ****21, QUEEN'S GATE,  
LONDON SW7 5JG**

medical research. The institute's equipment included a linear accelerator, a source of Cobalt - 60, as well as various energy apparatuses for the generation of deep and surface X-ray. The Commission also founded a cobalt - 60 unit with all its auxiliaries in Mosul, and is engaged, at present, in founding an institute for the use of isotopes in medicine, in Mosul. The Commission also collaborated with the International Agency for Atomic Energy in various research projects.

The Republic of Iraq was a member of the Board of Governors in the years 1960 - 1961 and 1961 - 1962. The representative of Iraq was elected Chairman of the Board of Governors in the year 1961 - 1962.

In view of the fact that the Republic of Iraq follows with interest the activities of the International Agency for Atomic energy and, therefore, attaches special importance to its membership of the Board of Governors, the Embassy of the Republic of Iraq would be most grateful for any help the Foreign and Commonwealth Office would be able to extend in this respect.

The Embassy of the Republic of Iraq avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office the assurances of its highest consideration.

London, 12 September, 1974

Foreign and Commonwealth Office,  
London.





Mr Burton (ED W92)

## JAPAN/IRAQ ECONOMIC COOPERATION

1. In the course of a meeting on 23 September with Mr Williams of the Department of Energy, Mr Toyonaga, the MITI member of the Japanese delegation to the ECG, referred to the Japanese Economic and Technical Agreement with Iraq.

2. He said that the cost of the oil to be obtained under the Agreement had been under negotiation since March. They had been awaiting the outcome of the Saudi/Aramco buyback negotiations before finalising the price and a delegation from MITI had now gone to Iraq to conclude the deal. He added that the Japanese were aiming at a lower price than that agreed recently with the Kuwaitis by Gulf and BP, though he did not specify what it would be.



D R MacLennan  
Energy Dept  
E 022

26 September 1974

cc Mr Haskell, FED K258  
Mr Taylor, Dept of Energy  
Mr Lindley, Dept of Energy  
Chancery, Baghdad  
Chancery, Tokyo

RECEIVED IN  
REGISTRY No 35  
27 SEP 1974

NBR 2/1



RESTRICTED



BRITISH EMBASSY

OSLO

23 September 1974

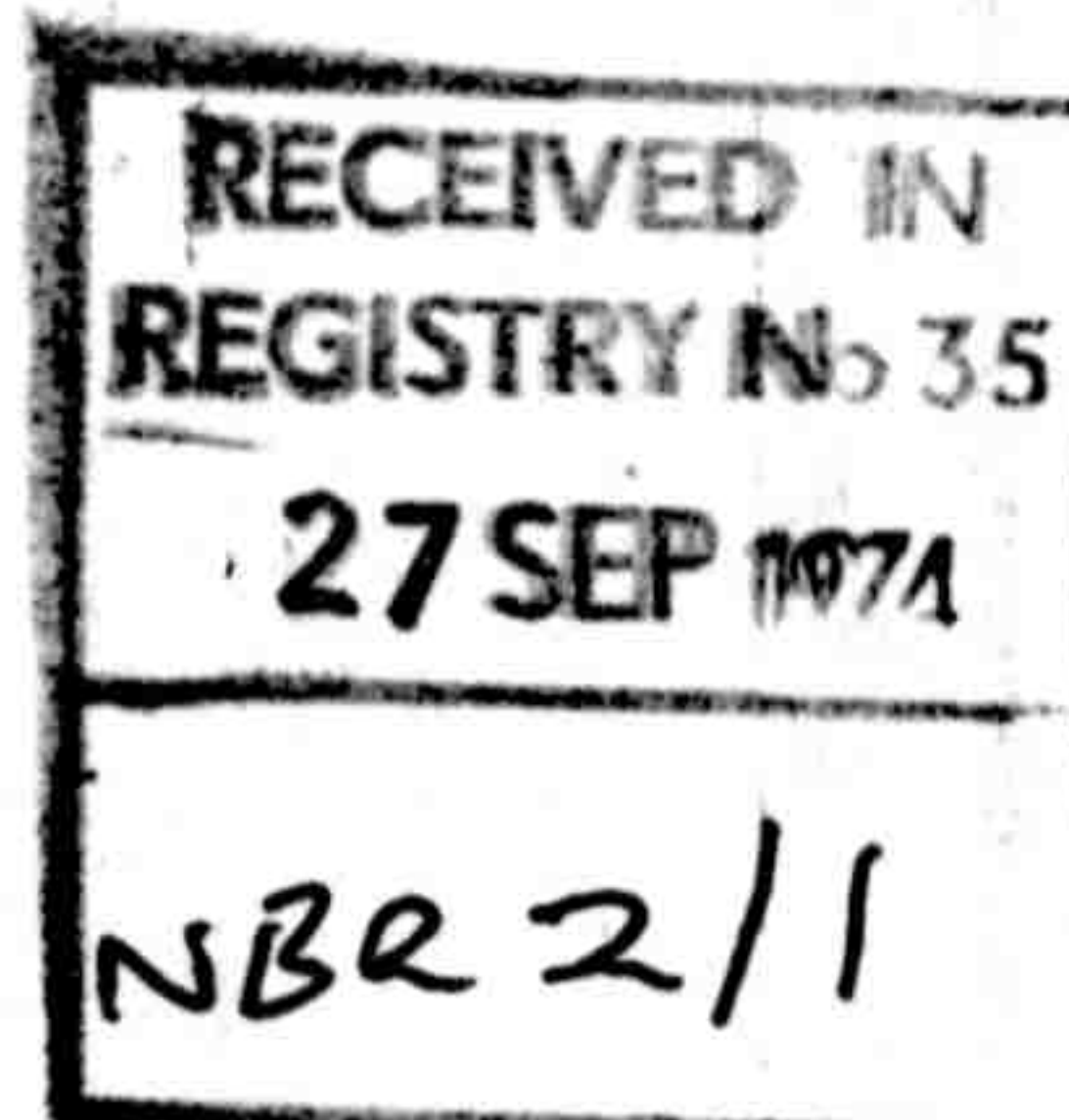
G. S. BURTON (21)

(MED)

27/9  
pa

2/11

C R L de Chassiron Esq  
STOCKHOLM



Dear Charles

VISIT OF IRAQI MINISTERS TO SWEDEN

1. Thank you for the sight of your letter 3/39 of 30 August addressed to Middle East Department about the visit of a party of Iraqi Ministers to Sweden during the last week of August. You mentioned at your para 4 that the party would also be visiting other Nordic capitals.

2. There has been no mention in the Norwegian press of any Iraqi visitors to Oslo and I discovered that the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs did not even know of the visit to Sweden. The Political Department were interested to hear about the Swedish visit and undertook to let me know of any plans for a similar visit to Norway. But they considered it an unlikely eventuality.

Yours ever,

B G J Canty

B G J Canty

COPIED TO:

✓ Middle East Department  
F C O  
LONDON

RESTRICTED



RR TEHERAN

GR 250

EN CLAIR

RECEIVED IN REGISTRY No 35 14 OCT 1974 NBR 2/1
---

FM UKMIS NEW YORK 102355Z

HD. NENAD  
HD. MED

Mr. Burton  
Mr. Williams - to see 2/fe  
14/12

UNCLASSIFIED

TO ROUTINE FCO TEL NO 1322 OF 10 OCTOBER INFO BAGHDAD TEL AVIV  
TEHERAN.

UN GENERAL DEBATE: IRAQI FOREIGN MINISTER'S SPEECH: MIDDLE EAST.

1. IN HIS SPEECH TO THE ASSEMBLY ON 9 OCTOBER, TAQA TOOK UP, THOUGH WITHOUT REFERRING TO IT DIRECTLY, THE SUGGESTION MADE BY KHADDAM (MY TELNO 1236, PARA 7) THAT CONSIDERATION SHOULD BE GIVEN TO THE EXPULSION OF ISRAEL FROM THE UN. REFERRING THROUGHOUT HIS SPEECH TO QUOTE THE FASCIST RACIST REGIME NOW ESTABLISHED IN THE LAND OF PALESTINE UNQUOTE HE SAID THAT IF THE UN HAD ACTED CORRECTLY IN DECIDING TO RECONSIDER ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH SOUTH AFRICA IT WAS TIME THAT IT SHOULD DO THE SAME WITH ISRAEL. IRAQ CALLED UPON THE ASSEMBLY TO RECALL THE CONDITIONS OF MEMBERSHIP LAID DOWN IN THE CHARTER AND THE RESOLUTIONS STRESSING THE RIGHT OF PEOPLES TO SELF DETERMINATION AND THE NECESSITY OF LIQUIDATING COLONIALISM.

2. WITH REGARD TO THE PALESTINE ITEM, TAQA SAID THAT IT WAS NECESSARY TO RECONSIDER AN HISTORIC INJUSTICE DONE TO THE PALESTINIANS WHO HAD UNJUSTLY AND ILLOGICALLY BEEN CONSIDERED UNDER RESOLUTION 242 PURELY AS REFUGEES.

3. ON RELATIONS WITH IRAN, HE CRITICISED THE IRANIAN GOVERNMENT FOR NOT RESPONDING TO IRAQ'S INITIATIVE FOR CONTACTS WITH A VIEW TO WITHDRAWING TROOPS FROM ALONG THE BORDERS THOUGH HE ALSO MENTIONED THE TALKS WHICH HAD TAKEN PLACE IN AUGUST IN ISTANBUL. HE SAID THAT WHILE IRAQ WAS DETERMINED TO DEFEND ITSELF, IT ALSO RECOGNISED THE NEED TO ESTABLISH FRIENDLY RELATIONS AMONG PEOPLES OF THE AREA AND WAS PREPARED TO EXERT ALL POSSIBLE EFFORTS TO ARRIVE AT AN APPROPRIATE AND EQUITABLE SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEMS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.

RICHARD

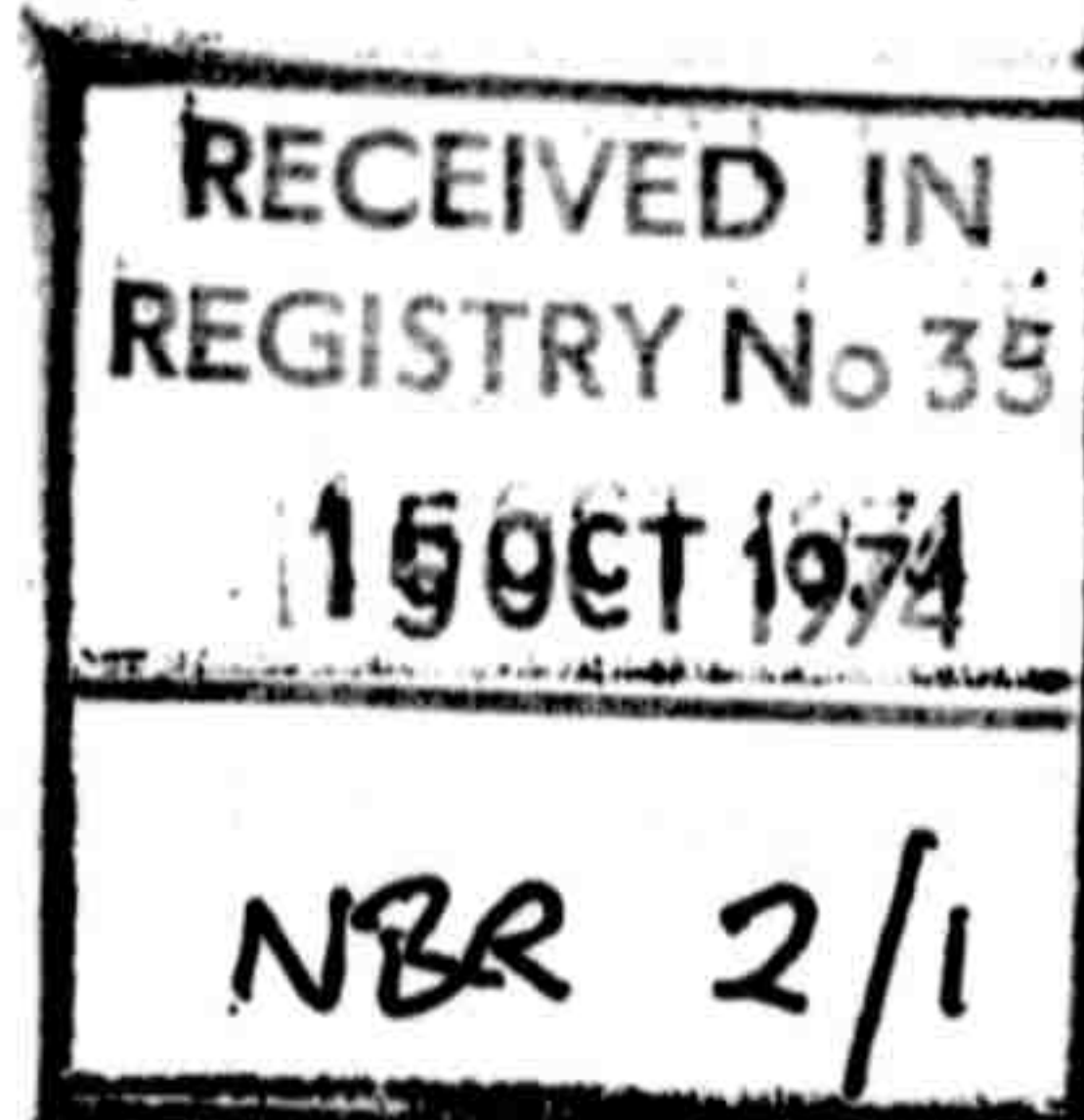


BRITISH EMBASSY

BAGHDAD

10 October 1974

C H Seward Esq  
South Asian Department  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office  
LONDON



#### VISIT OF SHEIKH MUJIB

1. As foreseen in Dakar tel No. 515 to you, Sheikh Mujib paid an official visit to Baghdad from 3-6 October on his way back to Dakar from New York. The party did not in the event include the Foreign Minister, whom I understand was detained in New York, but did include the Minister of Planning as well as 25 officials.

2. From both the Iraqi and Bangladesh points of view, the visit appears to have been successful. You will have seen Dakar tel No. 546 reporting the economic aid to be provided by the Iraqis to Bangladesh. The Bangladesh Ambassador tells me that, of the grant of US\$ 6 million, US\$ 1 million has been ear-marked for the supply of 10,000 gallons of kerosene; US\$ 20 million of the US\$ 45 million loan is to be used for a cement factory project, the details of which have yet to be worked out, whilst the remaining US\$ 25 million will be spent on Iraqi crude oil. (None of this has been published here - the Iraqis regarding the matter as confidential but agreeing that Sheikh Mujib might announce it in Dakar.) The Ambassador said that he was well satisfied with this outcome. Since relations were established between the two countries, a total of US\$ 54 million has been provided by Iraq. It was fair comment that Iraq was well able to afford much more than this, but the Bangladesh view was that this was a good start. He had no doubt that, should the need arise, the Iraqis would agree to provide more. An agreement on economic and technical co-operation and a cultural convention were also signed.

3. I enclose a copy of the communique as published in the English language Press. The Ambassador told me that a great deal of "haggling" had gone into drawing it up. The Iraqis had, predictably, wanted something much stronger on the question of the Eastern frontier. The Prime Minister, however, was not to be moved and the Iraqis did not insist further. The communique is otherwise without great interest. The expected statements with regard to Israel and the Palestinians as well as to Cyprus and the sub-continent were made.

/4.

CONFIDENTIAL



- 2 -

4. The Ambassador was well satisfied with the treatment accorded Sheikh Mujib. The Iraqis are, of course, excellent hosts and did everything in their power to make Mujib welcome. One unexpected event was Saddam Hussein's appearance with the Sheikh at the Baghdad Fair. No doubt appropriate security precautions had been taken, but it is, I am assured, the first time Saddam Hussein has visited the Fair at night and on foot. The Ambassador said that his reception by the crowd was warm and obviously spontaneous. It is also note-worthy that Saddam Hussein was present at the Airport to see the Prime Minister off on the evening of the 6th. This again is very unusual, since Saddam Hussein does not normally travel anywhere after dark. Security precautions were, of course, very much in evidence throughout the visit but these, as usual here, are protection for Saddam Hussein rather than for his visitor.

R G Giddens

cc: Middle East Department, FCO  
Chancery, Tehran  
Chancery, Dakar



# **Iraq-Bangladesh communique:**

## **NO PEACE WITHOUT LIBERATION OF ARAB TERRITORIES**

### **Sheikh Mujib expresses admiration at our socialist transformation**

Iraq and Bangladesh condemned Zionist occupation of Palestine, denounced the expansionary character inherent in such occupation and confirmed their conviction that a just and permanent peace could only be realised in the Arab area by the liberation of all occupied Arab territories and restoration to the Arab people of Palestine their national rights to the full.

In a joint communique released yesterday on the visit paid to Iraq by Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Prime Minister of Bangladesh, and concluded on Sunday, the two countries reiterated complete support to the fight being waged by the people of Palestine for the restoration of their homeland.

"Sd. Saddam Hussein, Vice-Chairman of the Revolutionary Command Council (RCC) reviewed the situation on the country's Eastern borders and the threat to peace and security in the area; the Prime Minister of Bangladesh expressed his government's full understanding of these problems and confirmed the necessity that they should be settled in accordance with the principles of International laws and the UN Charter," the communique said.

"The Prime Minister of Bangladesh expressed admiration for the socialist transformation and progress being accomplished by Iraq under the leadership of the Arab Baath Socialist Party.

The joint communique also noted that the two Parties reviewed the situation in a number of areas in the world and

exchanged viewpoints on matters of common interest at the level of bilateral relations and

on major international questions.

The communique noted that Sheikh Mujibur Rahman addressed an invitation to President Ahmed Hassan al-Bakr, on behalf of the President of Bangladesh, and another invitation in his own name to Sd. Saddam Hussein, RCC Vice-Chairman, to visit Bangladesh. The two invitations were gladly

(Continued on page 8)

(Continued from page 1)

accepted and their respective dates will be fixed through proper channels.

Following is the full text of the Iraqi-Bangladesh joint communique released on the visit of the Prime Minister of Bangladesh to the Republic of Iraq (3-6 October 1974).

"At the invitation of Sd. Saddam Hussein, Vice-Chairman of the Revolutionary Command Council in the Republic of Iraq, Mr. Banka Bando Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bangladesh paid a state and friendly visit to the Republic of Iraq from 3 to 6 October 1974."

"On his arrival the Prime Minister of Bangladesh was received by Sd. Saddam Hussein, RCC Vice-Chairman; The Prime Minister of Bangladesh and the official delegation were accorded a friendly and warm reception by the people and government of the Republic of Iraq."

"During his visit, the Prime Minister of Bangladesh was received by President Ahmed Hassan al-Bakr with whom he held friendly talks."

"The Prime Minister of Bangladesh and members of his delegation visited the holy shrines of Baghdad, Najaf and Karbala and several archaeological and historical places in Iraq."



### TALKS

"Talks between the two Parties attended by officials on both sides, were held in an atmosphere of mutual friendship, confidence and full understanding. The two Parties exchanged view points on matters of common interest regarding bilateral relations and major international questions. They noted with satisfaction the development of relations between the two sisterly states during past years, and confirmed their determination to expand the scope of their cooperation in the political, economic and cultural fields; they expressed their satisfaction at the steady growth of trade relations for their mutual benefit. On the occasion of the visit the two Parties signed an agreement on economic cooperation and another agreement on cultural and technical cooperation."

### ARAB LIBERATION

"The two Parties denounced Zionist occupation of Palestine, condemned the expansionary character inherent in such occupation, condemned the imperialist, Zionist aggression on the Arab people and confirmed that a just and permanent peace could only be realised in the area by the liberation of all occupied Arab territories and restoration by the Arab people of Palestine of their national right to the full; they reiterated their governments' full support to the struggle of the Palestinian people for the restoration of their homeland."

"Sd. Saddam Hussein, ROC Vice-Chairman reviewed the serious situation on the Eastern borders of the Republic of Iraq and the threat bearing from such situation, on

the peace and security of the area, the Prime Minister of Bangladesh expressed his government's full understanding of these problems and confirmed the necessity of their settlement in accordance with the principles of international law and the agreements and principles of the UN Charter."

"The two Parties confirmed their full support to the declarations of the non-aligned countries' conferences of Lusaka and Algiers, towards the establishment of an area of peace in the Indian Ocean."

"The Prime Minister of Bangladesh expressed admiration at the socialist transformation and progress accomplished by the Republic of Iraq under the leadership of the ABSP."

### NON-ALIGNMENT

"The two parties expressed their firm adherence to the principles of the policy of non-alignment fully adopted by the two countries as an effective force in international relations and as a significant factor in the current international situation for the preservation of peace and acceleration of development in the world."

"The Prime Minister of Bangladesh acquainted Sd. Saddam Hussein with the recent developments in the sub-continent, in which respect, the Prime Minister of Bangladesh explained the efforts exerted towards the restoration of relations between the countries in the area to normalcy. The two Parties agreed that the settlement of outstanding questions could be satisfactorily accomplished through negotiations for the common interests of peoples in the sub-continent and for the benefit of peace, stability and progress in the area."

### CYPRUS

"The two Parties called for the restoration of normal conditions in Cyprus on the basis of respect for the independence and territorial integrity, and for the preservation of legitimate rights for both nationalities."

"The two Parties welcomed the declaration of independence of Guinea-Bissau and the Green Islands, and confirmed their support to the struggle of African peoples for liberty and independence."

"Their expressed satisfaction at the development of close relations between the two countries and agreed to set up a permanent joint committee on economic and technical cooperation."

"The Prime Minister of the Peoples Republic of Bangladesh expressed profound gratitude to the ROC Vice-Chairman for the hospitality and cordiality accorded him and his delegation during their visit to Iraq."

"The Prime Minister of the Peoples Republic of Bangladesh, on behalf of the President of Bangladesh, addressed an invitation to the President of the Republic of Iraq, and in his own name to the ROC Vice-Chairman to visit Bangladesh at their convenience. The two invitations were gladly accepted and their respective dates will be fixed through mutual contacts."



RESTRICTED



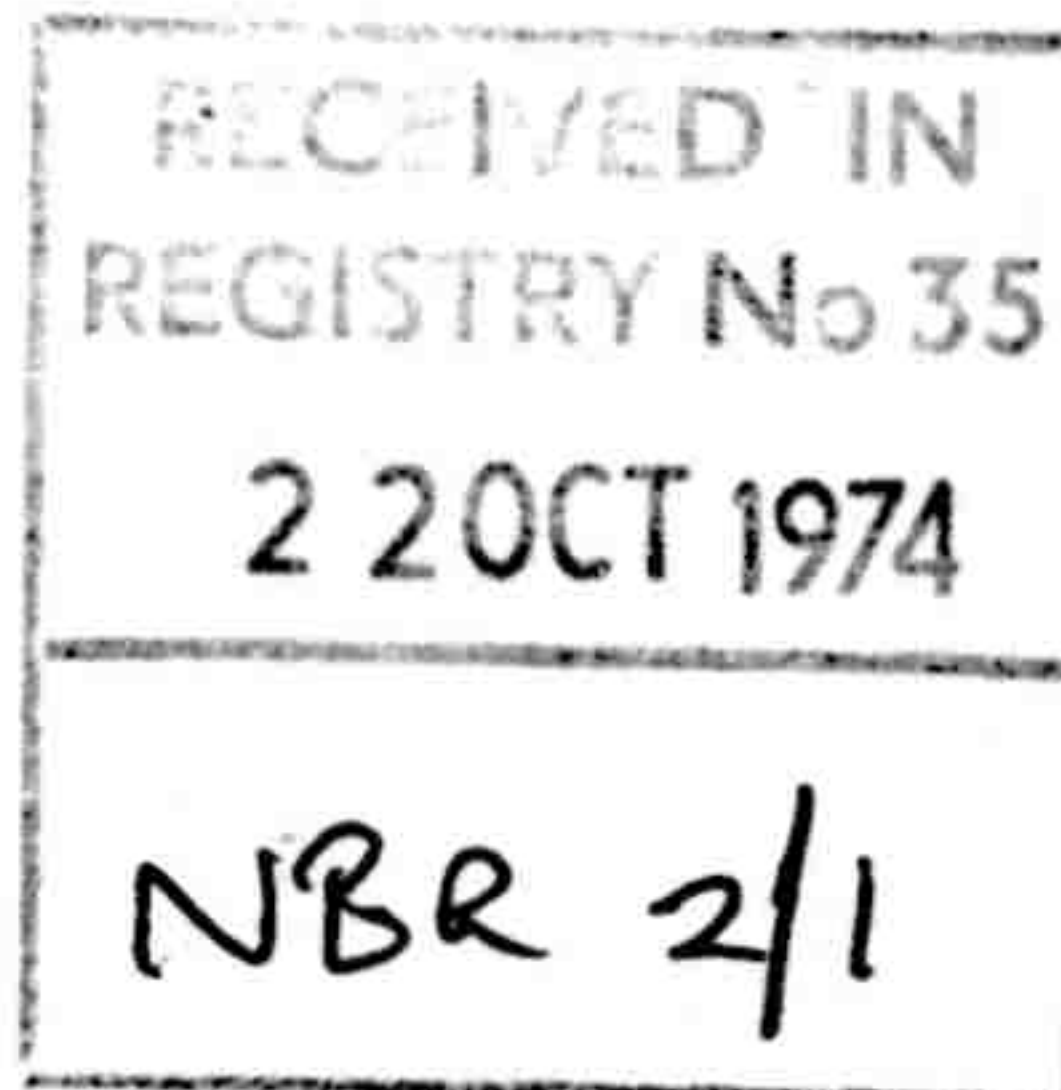
BRITISH EMBASSY

BAGHDAD

16 October 1974

(24)

G S Burton  
Middle East Department  
F C O



cc CESD 22-10-74

NSB 22/1  
19

*Dear Guba.*

VISIT OF DZEMAL BIJEDIC

1. Dzemal Bijedic visited Iraq from 11-14 October, at the invitation of Saddam Hussein (Vice-Chairman of the Revolution Command Council). Although the visit was accorded considerable importance, illustrated by the presence of 4 out of the 6 RCC members at the airport on Bijedic's departure, the Acting Foreign Minister told the Ambassador yesterday that it was only in return for Saddam Hussein's visit to Yugoslavia in June this year.

2. The joint communique is wide-ranging and of little interest but it includes an invitation to Saddam Hussein to re-visit Yugoslavia, which has been accepted.

*Yours ever.*

*K D Temple*  
K D Temple

Copy to:  
Chancery,  
Belgrade

RESTRICTED



Mr Giddens

PRESS ROUND-UP: WEEK ENDING 18 OCTOBER(a) Industrial Integration

An article in the Observer of 15 October called for industrial integration and unity among Arab countries; the sort of integration envisaged included projects like a joint motor industry, where each country manufactures a certain part!

(b) Iraq and Africa

A double article in the Observer of 15 and 17 October discussed Iraqi/African relations. The first article referred to an Iraqi contribution of \$ 30 million to the Arab Bank for Industrial and Agricultural Development in Africa (set up in 1973 with a total capital of \$ 155 million).

It also mentioned the agreement for technical co-operation signed in April between Iraq and Somalia, which provided for the establishment of a jointly owned oil refinery in Somalia for which Iraq will provide crude. Iraq is lending Somalia half of the cost of the project, to be repaid in 3 years after it comes into operation.

The second part of the article listed the landmarks in the development of Iraqi/African relations. They include:-

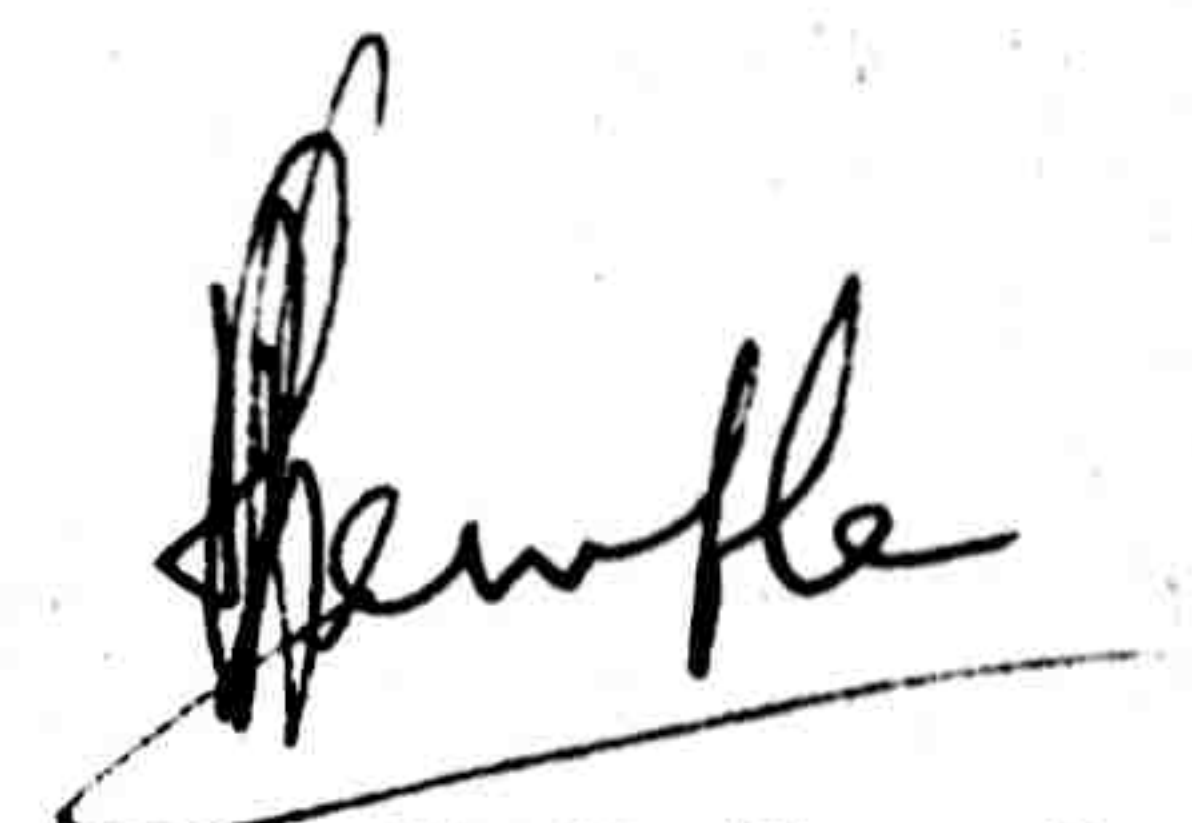
January 1972:	President Bokassa of Central African Republic visited Iraq. Treaty of friendship and co-operation.
November 1972:	President Barre of Somalia visited Iraq.
November 1973:	Iraq and Nigeria - agreement to develop oil co-operation.
November 1973 and May 1974:	President Amin visited Iraq
January 1974:	Somali Foreign Minister visited Iraq.
February 1974:	Iraq and Chad signed technical and trade co-operation agreement.
February 1974:	Mobolo, personal envoy of President of Congo Brazzaville, visited Iraq. Also Foreign Minister of Mali.
February - March 1974:	Zaid Hader led ABSP delegation on tour to Somalia, Tanzania, Congo Brazzaville and Zaire.
August 1974:	Blafoughi, Prime Minister of Guinea, visited Iraq.



(c) TV

At present there are 5 TV stations in Iraq, in Baghdad, Basra, Kirkuk and Nineveh, and on 16 October a new station was opened at Maisan. Another is being built in the Governorate of Muthanna.

21 October 1974



K D Temple



RESTRICTED

(26)

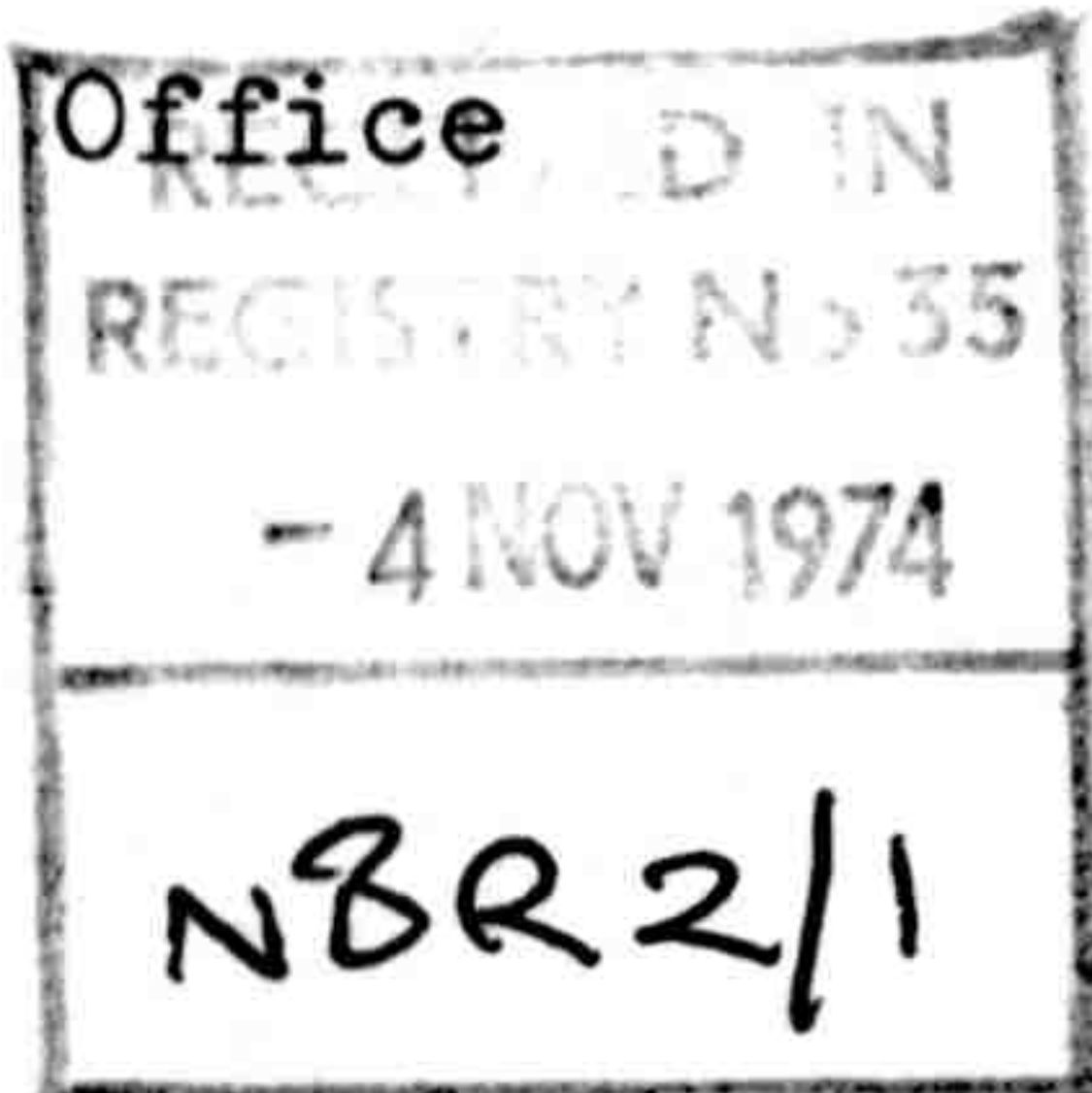


BRITISH EMBASSY

BAGHDAD

29 October 1974

G S Burton Esq  
Middle East Department  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office  
LONDON



*David / O/B 2/11*  
*Isa S. 12/11*  
*Copy to Regional Dept. DVB 6/11*  
*D. V. 11/11*  
*AB K*

*See Graham.*

#### RATIFICATIONS

1. As you no doubt know, the Iraqis like to conduct their international affairs by means of pieces of paper. I am not sure if you want us to report all the agreements and ratifications which occur, but here are some of the most recent ones:-

- (a) In early October, the RCC ratified an Iraqi/Hungarian scientific and technical co-operation agreement on water control, which was signed in Baghdad in April. This 4 year renewable agreement provides for exchange of experience and data on water control matters, for sending Hungarian engineers to Iraq and for training Iraqi engineers in Hungary.
- (b) On 30 September, Iraq and Poland signed a report which will be annexed to the agricultural co-operation agreement of August 1974. Poland will develop several agricultural projects in Iraq and will train 140 Iraqi agricultural experts in Polish state and collective farms in the next two years. Poland will send experts to study setting up an agricultural training centre in Iraq.
- (c) Also on 30 September, the RCC ratified the 1974 trade exchange protocol between Iraq and the USSR. Iraq will export to the Soviet Union this year, crude oil, 30,000 tons of edible dates, 130,000 pairs of shoes etc. etc.
- (d) In early October, the RCC ratified a cultural and scientific co-operation agreement between Iraq and Turkey signed in Ankara at the end of April. This is to encourage co-operation for culture, education, science etc.

/(e)

RESTRICTED





- 2 -

- (e) On 13 October, the RCC ratified the Iraq/Bangladesh agreement signed in February. This provides for the establishment of trade centres in the capitals of the two countries, and Iraqi goods to be exported to Bangladesh will include cement, petroleum products, chemical fertilisers, dates and tobacco.
- (f) In mid-September, the RCC ratified the economic technical co-operation agreement signed in Belgrade between Iraq and Yugoslavia on 14 June. Iraq will supply Yugoslavia with oil on a long term basis, and Yugoslav experts will participate in Iraqi industrial, agricultural and construction development projects.
- (g) On 18 September, the RCC ratified a trade, economic and technical agreement between Iraq and Congo (Brazzaville). I am afraid I don't know what the agreement said - the text was not published either on ratification or when signed.
2. These are typical of the agreements which the Iraqis are constantly making. I would be grateful if you could let me know if they are useful to you or anyone else in the Office, and, if so, what sort of detail you require. (Do you need to know about Iraqi shoes to the Soviet Union?!)

*Yours ever,*  
  
K D Temple





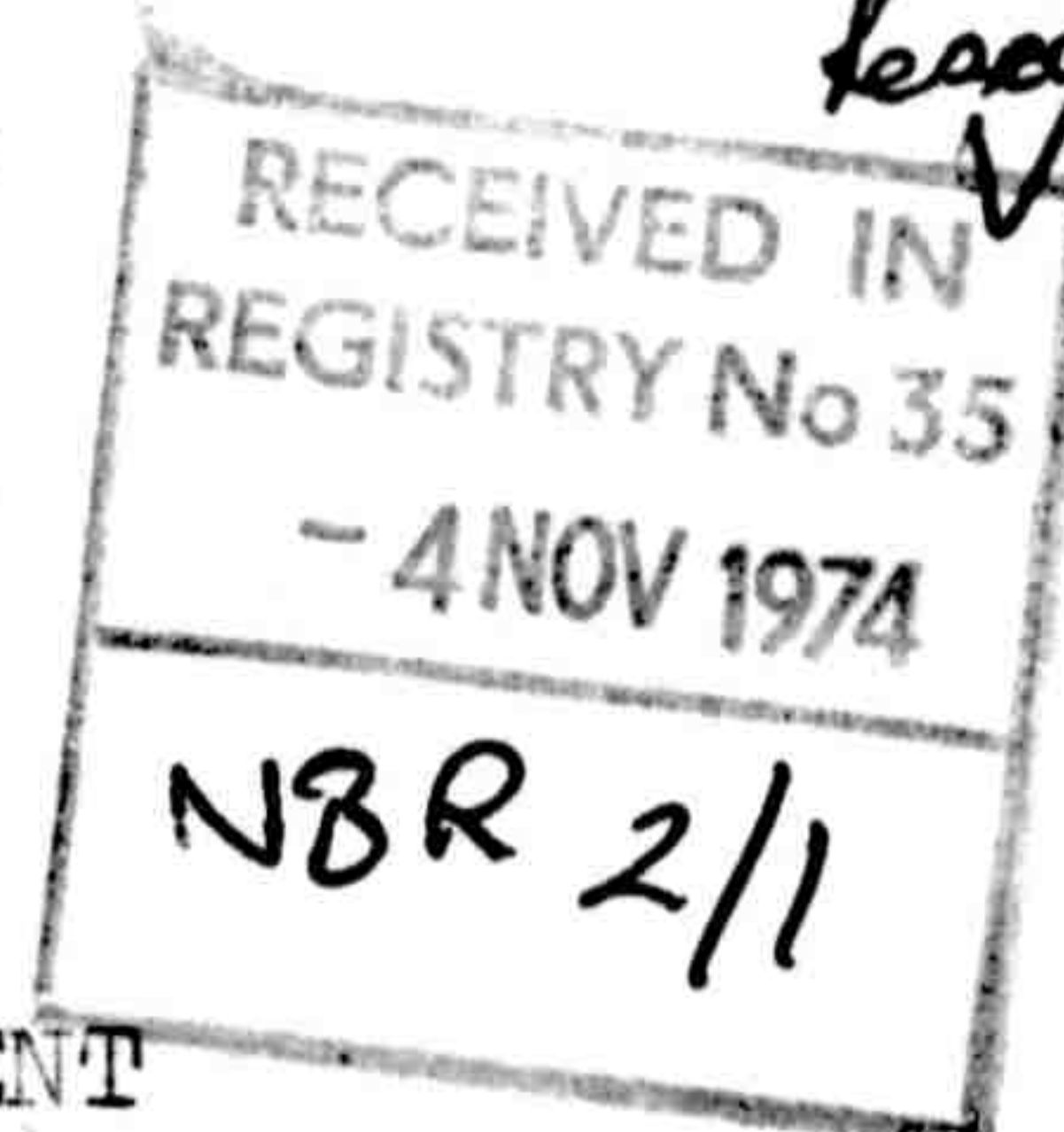
BRITISH EMBASSY

BAGHDAD

29 October 1974

G S Burton Esq  
Middle East Department  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office  
LONDON

*See below.*



## IRAQI/SYRIAN INDUSTRIAL AGREEMENT

1. The Syrian Minister for Industry, Mr Shtaiwi Saifu, visited Iraq from 23-26 October and signed a co-operation protocol between the two countries.
2. This provides for building a railway between Baghdad and Deir Ez-Zor, a unified electric network, and granting a free zone to Iraq in one of Syria's ports. Syria will provide Iraq with her needs of cotton for five years, and the two countries will study joint industrial schemes, including textile projects and co-ordination of mechanical and electrical industries.

*Yours ever,*  
*K D Temple*  
K D Temple

cc: Chancery  
DAMASCUS





**Foreign and Commonwealth Office**  
London SW1

Telephone 01.

**K D Temple**  
**BAGHDAD**

RECEIVED IN REGISTRY No 35 - 8 NOV 1974 NBR 2/1
--

Your reference

Our reference

Date 7 November 1974

#### RATIFICATIONS

Thank you for your letter of 29 October. I can confirm that it is useful for us to receive notification of the agreements and ratifications to which you refer. Research Department are particularly grateful for this material.

*Wb 8/4*  
*fa*  
**G S Burton**  
**Middle East Dept**



1. Copy Mr Barton (MED) 21-11-74  
Research department.

2. Enter and p.a. RM 20/11

RESTRICTED



BRITISH EMBASSY

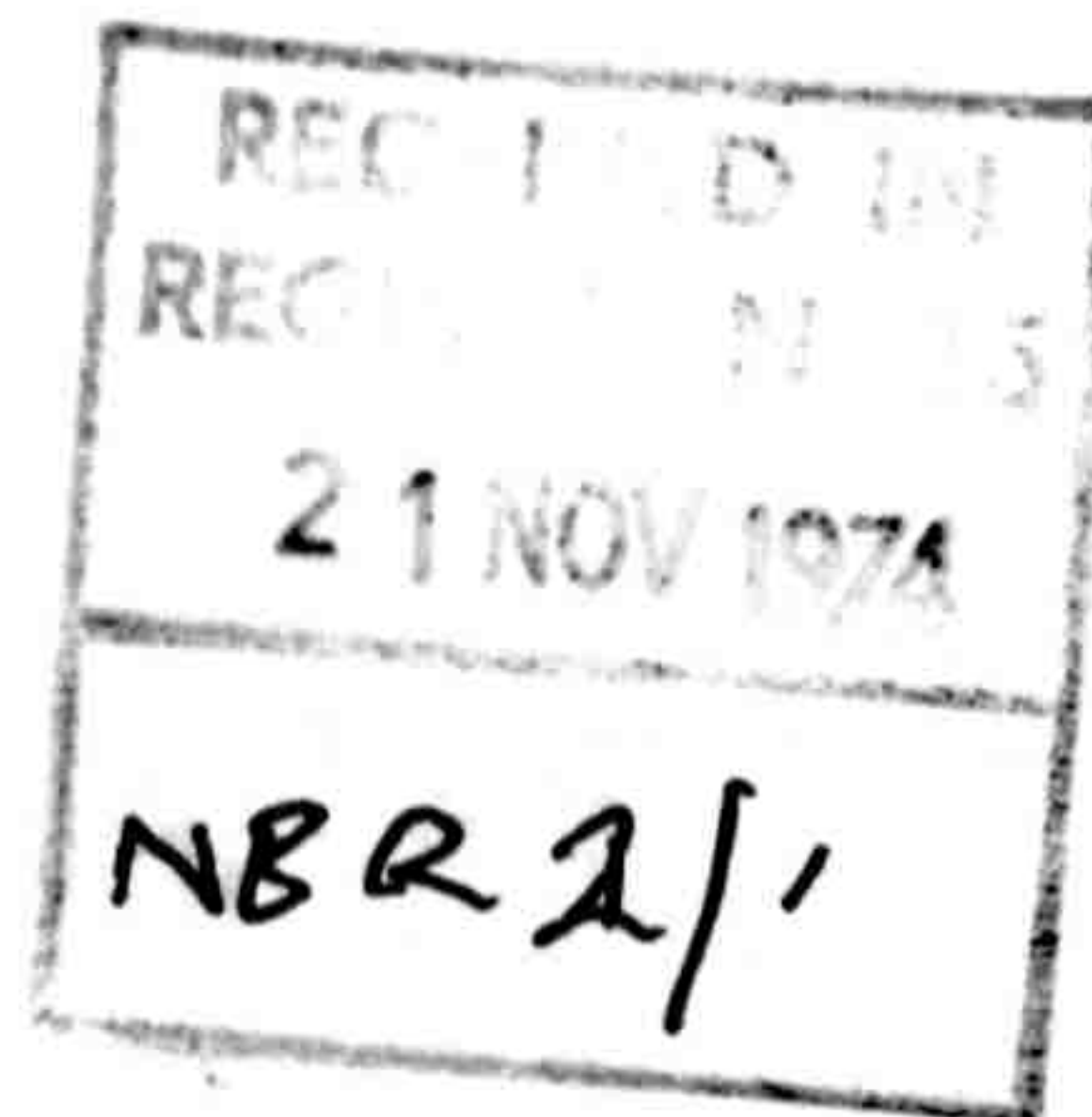
KHARTOUM

16 November 1974

(29)

3/22

Miss R Marsden  
NENAD  
FCO



Dear Miss Marsden,

SUDAN-IRAQ

The Iraqi Vice-President, Sayed Taha Mohi El Din Maarouf, visited the Sudan from 9 - 14 November. He was accompanied by a large delegation including the Ministers of National Economy and Information. The visit returned that paid to Iraq in May this year by the Sudanese First Vice-President, Major-General Mohammed El Baghir Ahmed.

2. The Vice-President and his delegation visited places of interest near Khartoum, the Gezira and Juba, where Sayed Taha announced a contribution of 250,000 dollars in the name of the Iraqi President to the development effort in the Southern Region. He also invited the Vice-President, Abel Alier, to visit Iraq.

3. Their official talks were primarily concerned with strengthening bilateral relations. The respective Ministers of National Economy signed a number of agreements, including cultural and information co-operation agreements, a civil aviation agreement and a trade protocol. It was announced that Iraq will grant a 10 million dollar loan to the Sudan. The Iraqi Minister commented that there was wide scope for economic co-operation between Iraq and the Sudan. Iraq needed the raw materials and natural products of the Sudan and could provide the funds to invest in their exploitation.

4. Although the Iraqi delegation included an official concerned with oil matters, we do not believe that any agreement for the supply of Iraqi oil to the Sudan was reached, despite the active rumours on the subject before and during the visit. The practical results of the visit from the Sudanese viewpoint are thus relatively modest, but it has served to confirm the restoration of friendly relations between the two countries, which were interrupted by apparent Iraqi support for the attempted coup in July 1971.

Yours ever,

Alan Goulty

A F Goulty.

Copied to: The Chancery, Baghdad.

RESTRICTED



UNCLASSIFIED

30

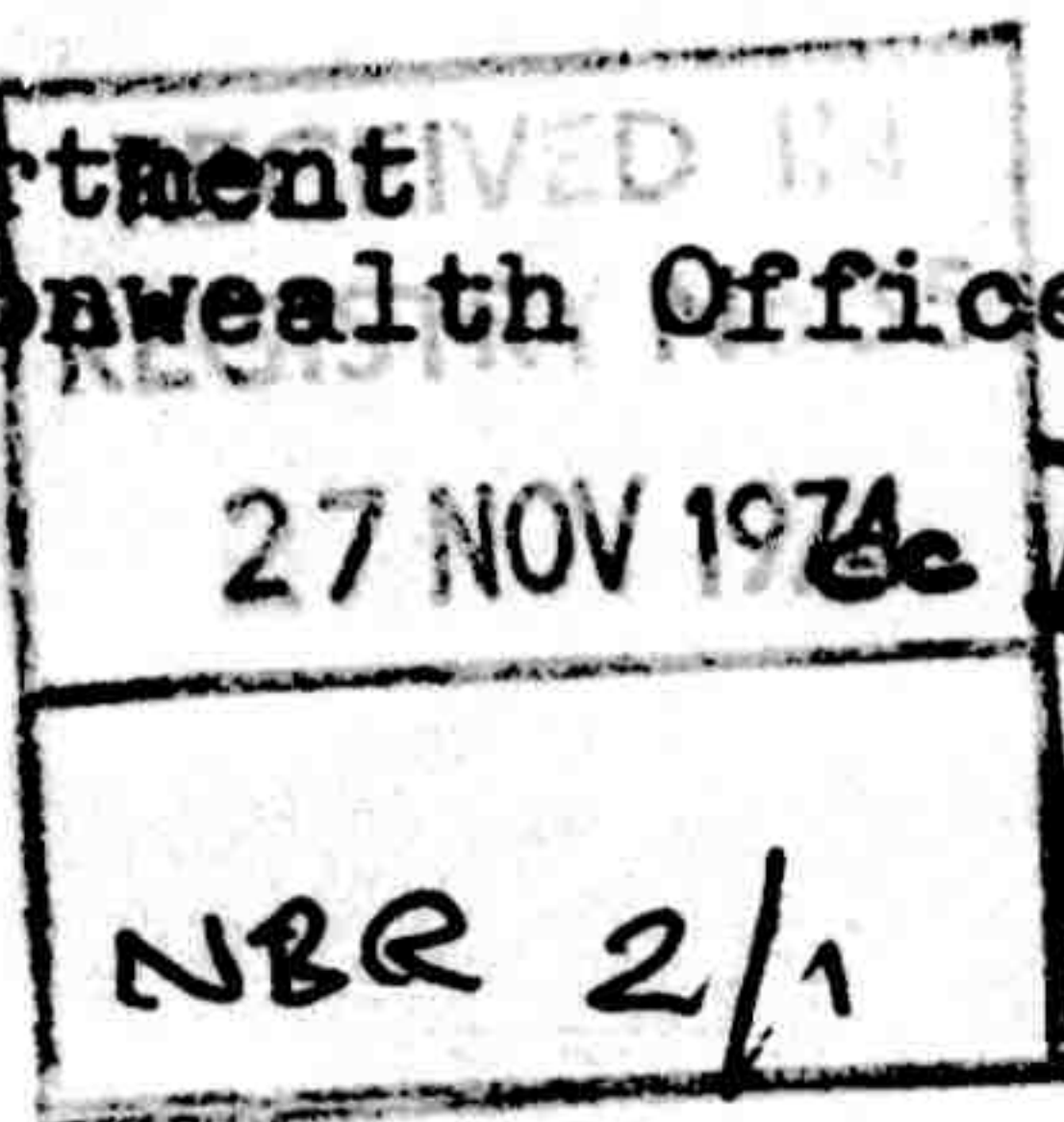


BRITISH EMBASSY

BAGHDAD

23 November 1974

G S Burton Esq  
Middle East Department  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office  
LONDON



*Dear Sir,*

INDIAN OCEAN

1. I enclose the Iraqi News Agency item on President Bakr's message to the International Conference on the Indian Ocean which met in New Delhi recently.

*Yours ever,*  
*K D Temple*  
K D Temple



PRESIDENT BAKR GREETES  
CONFERENCE ON THE  
INDIAN OCEAN

New Delhi, 15th November - INA.

President Ahmed Hasan Al-Bakr has greeted the international conference on the Indian Ocean against military bases opened here yesterday.

In a message read at the conference, President Bakr said the "Attempts of U.S. imperialists and their British allies to build and consolidate military bases in the Indian Ocean, particularly on Diego Gracia is part and parcel of world imperialism's attempt to stage a comeback to regain domination and influence over the destiny of the peoples and to plunder their riches." All this, the President went on, is a part of their attempt to reactivate the shaky CENTO and SEATO.

President Bakr stressed this attempt is spearheaded against the Indian Ocean peoples of Asia and Africa. "It is also organically and directly connected with the imperialists' frenzied activity in the Arab Gulf Region and the Arab Peninsula, consolidating and building imperialist bases in the region and the armament of reactionary regimes linked with imperialism in a huge manner that is not proportional in any way with the necessity of national defence of the concerned countries."



President Bakr said: "We are well aware that our country together with the surging Arab liberation movement in the Arab Gulf Area and the Arab Peninsula are the direct target of the imperialists' military and political measures."

"Our national principles and foreign policy", the President said, "are based on struggle against these attempts and rendering active support to the forces of liberation, progress and peace and their struggle against imperialism and its various colonial regimes and forms of domination and influence."

Concluding President Bakr said, "The people and government of the Republic of Iraq are with you in your struggle for declaring the Indian Ocean a zone of peace and for dismantling imperialist military bases and liquidating its influence in the Arab Gulf Region, Asia, Africa and the world at large."

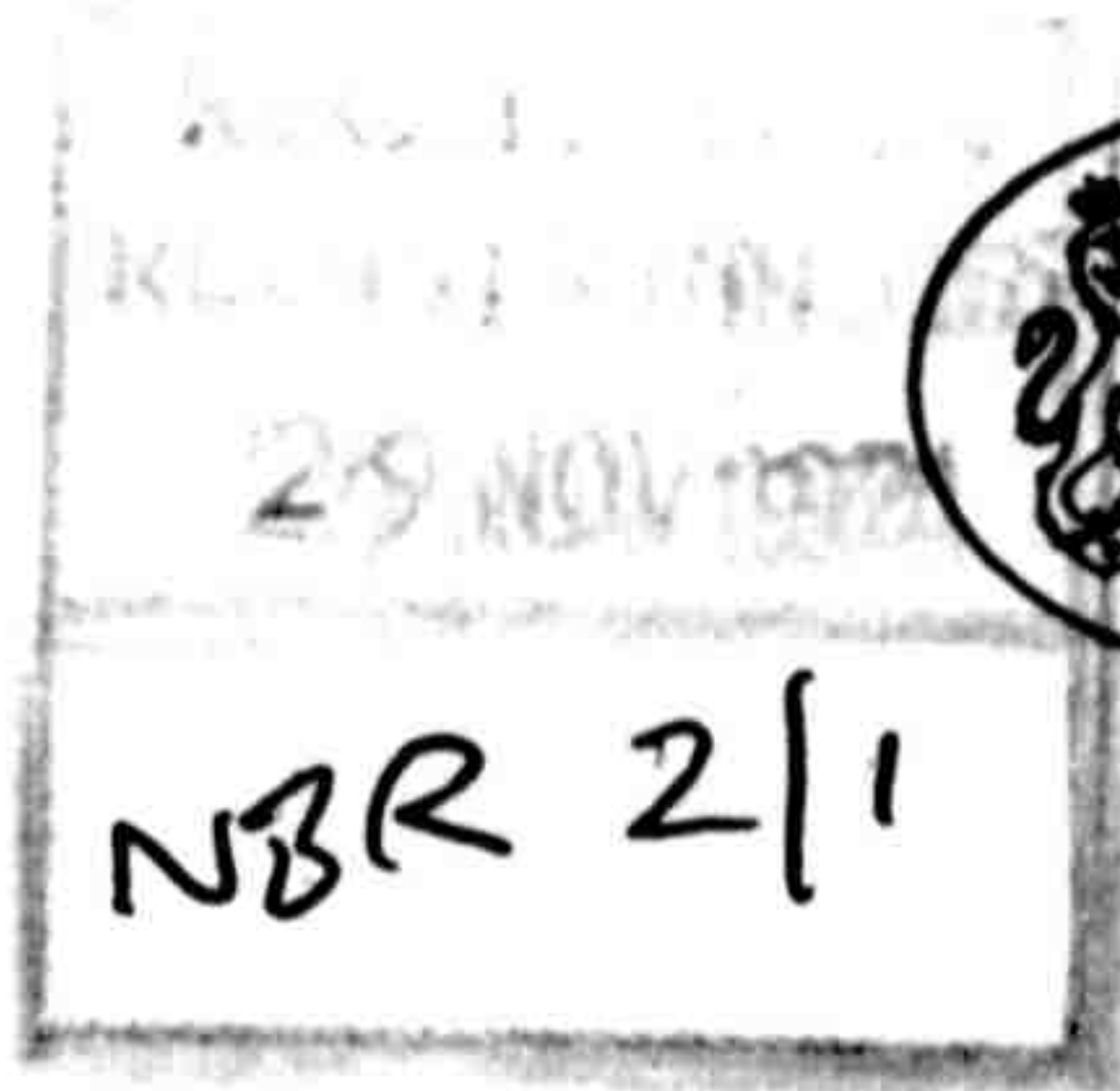
May I wish your conference all success in its noble assignment."



UNCLASSIFIED

COVERING RESTRICTED.

31



BRITISH EMBASSY

BAGHDAD

25 November 1974

cc EFS  
29/11/74  
155  
fr

G S Burton Esq  
Middle East Department  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office  
LONDON

*Dear Sir,*

VISIT OF GDR PRIME MINISTER TO IRAQ

1. The East German Prime Minister, Herr Horst Sindermann, visited Iraq at the invitation of Saddam Hussein, Vice Chairman of the Revolutionary Command Council, between 18 and 21 November.
2. His visit included the usual receptions and meetings, and also an hour in "closed session" with Saddam Hussein. There has been considerable publicity for the visit here, and a typical comment is the following quotation from the "Baghdad Observer": the Revolutionary Regime's foreign policy depends "on founding the strongest relations with the socialist and liberated countries for a decisive struggle within a wide front against imperialism, colonialism and Zionism, and for joint co-operation on all levels".
3. For your interest, I enclose a copy of the communique issued at the end of Sindermann's visit, and also a copy of the Ambassador's minute recording the comments of one of the members of the East German delegation.

*Yours ever,*  
*K D Temple*  
K D Temple

cc: Chancery  
BERLIN

UNCLASSIFIED

COVERING RESTRICTED.



## VISIT OF THE EAST GERMAN PRIME MINISTER

1. I met last night a member of the East German Prime Minister's Delegation who had served in the East German Embassy here from 1962-65. He said naturally, that the talks had gone well and had been very friendly. He commented that Saddam Hussein was a very quiet person, a quick thinker in a debate, but someone who appeared to listen to the arguments of the other side, though the East Germans had not of course managed to change his views. In reply to my question, he confirmed that the principal matters under discussion had been economic: East Germany is active in this field. He then volunteered that they had also put forward their views on the form that a Middle East settlement might take. These were not the same as Iraq's and it was in that context that he had commented that he had not thought that they had made any impression on Saddam Hussein, though like a drop of water in a series they might contribute to a cumulative effect.

2. I said that I thought that Saddam Hussein's remarks at the Rabat summit showed some glimmerings of a new flexibility and at least the possibility that Iraq might be able to take the line towards any settlement that it was a matter for the front line States and the Palestinians. My interlocutor, whose name I did not know, said that it was also the East Germans' impression that there had been some shift towards a greater flexibility.

3. Somehow we got on to philosophy and Arab philosophy in particular. I remarked that I found it very obscure and the philosophy of the Ba'ath even more obscure. He agreed with every appearance of sincerity and remarked that it was an ideology quite apart.



J A N Graham

21 November 1974

RESTRICTED



is the unofficial start of the joint invitation of **Sd. Saddam Hussein**, Vice-Chairman of the Revolutionary Command Council, the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the German Democratic Republic, **Herr Horst Sindermann**, paid an official visit to the Republic of Iraq in the period between the 15th and 17th November 1974.

During the visit, **Herr Sindermann** and the accompanying delegation laid a wreath on the Unknown Soldier monument in Baghdad. He also visited the Governorate of Kirkuk in Northern Iraq and inspected oil installations there. He expressed his admiration at the development of oil industry in Iraq and satisfaction for the transference of that industry to the hands of the Iraqi people.

**Herr Sindermann** was received during the visit with warm welcome by the officials and the Iraqi people.

**Herr Sindermann** held talks with **Sd. Saddam Hussein**, RCD Vice-Chairman.

During the talks which took place in an atmosphere of frankness, understanding and confidence, matters related to bilateral relations between the two countries, the continuation of their development and present international issues were discussed.

Participants in the talks for the Iraqi side were **Dr. Sa'adun Hamad**, Foreign Minister, **Sd. Mohammed Sabri al-Hadidi**, Under-Secretary of the Foreign Ministry, **Sd. Mehdi al-Obaidi**, Under-Secretary of the Ministry of Economy, **Sd. Thamer al-Samarra'i**, Acting Director-General of the Political Department, **Sd. Sabah Kachachi**, head of the Economic Department at the Ministry of Planning and a number of other officials.

The German side comprised of **Herr Guenter Kleiber**, Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers and Minister of General machine, agricultural machines and cars industry, **Professor Dr. Karl Gruenheid**, Secretary of State at the State Planning Commission, **Dr. Klaus Willerding**, Deputy Foreign Minister, **Herr Freidmar Clausen**, Deputy Minister of Foreign Economic Relations, **Guenter Schurach**, Democratic Germany Ambassador in Baghdad, and other officials.

**Herr Sindermann** viewed aspects of the implementation of the resolutions taken by the 8th Conference of the German Socialist Unity party (GSDP) in the socialist building in GDR and the successes scored by the people of Democratic

Germany in cooperation with the socialist countries for preserving peace and consolidating peaceful coexistence principles as well as backing the international detente policy for the benefit of national liberation and social progress of peoples.

**Sd. Saddam Hussein** reviewed the important resolutions of the 8th Regional Conference of the Arab Baath Socialist Party in Iraq and its achievements in realising progressive transformations, democratic building and consolidating economic independence in liberating the oil wealth from the hegemony of monopolist and imperialist companies and fully controlling it as well as other national wealths whether in planning, production or marketing.

He also underlined that the implementation of the Self-rule Law had guaranteed in a just and a final manner the legitimate national rights of the Kurds within the unity of the Iraqi Republic and its constitutional form of government. **Sd. Saddam Hussein** pointed out that these progressive achievements and revolutionary gains heightened imperialist and reactionary regimes moves and plots against Iraq's sovereignty and national unity.

**Sd. Saddam Hussein** expressed his admiration at the huge achievements of German Democratic Republic in the economic, social and cultural fields and welcomed international recognition of the German Democratic

Republic and its assumption of its natural position at the United Nations. He also appreciated the effective efforts of the GDR in the struggle for consolidating peace and security.

**Herr Horst Sindermann** highly praised the progressive policy of Iraq under the leadership of the Arab Baath Socialist Party and its steadfast struggle against imperialism, reaction and Zionism. He also expressed his appreciation of the steps taken by the Iraqi Government in nationalising oil resources and employing these resources for the service of national development. He expressed his appreciation at the oil industry development in Iraq through the visit he and the accompanying delegation paid to Kirkuk in Northern Iraq and their inspection of oil installations there.

**Herr Sindermann** highly praised the progressive steps taken by the Iraqi Government to solve the Kurdish issue democratically by the achievement of Self-rule for the Kurdish area within the national unity. He condemned all imperialist plots against national and territorial sovereignty of Iraq.

**Sd. Saddam Hussein** and **Herr Horst Sindermann** paid great attention to the achievements of peaceful coexistence between countries of different social systems and the importance of the detente tendency in present world development.

They also supported socialist and progressive efforts in that respect emphasising the importance of solidarity between progressive forces of the world against imperialism, neo-colonialism, Zionism and reaction with their threats of war.

They expressed their belief that the success of the European security and cooperation conference will play an important role in strengthening the basis for peace and detente in the European Continent and the world as a whole.

The two sides laid particular interest in the situation in the Arab Area and sternly condemned Zionist aggression against the Arab Nation represented in the Zionist occupation of Arab lands. The two sides expressed their belief that a just and a lasting peace would not be achieved without the unconditional liberation of all Arab occupied lands and guaranteeing the full rights of the Arab people of Palestine.

**Sd. Saddam Hussein** explained the tense situation on Iraq's Eastern borders and the Arab Gulf.

The two sides expressed the belief in the necessity of solving problems of conflicts between them in peaceful ways and in compliance with the United Nations Charter and the rules of international law.

The two sides noted that the signing of the Paris agreement to end the war and return peace to Vietnam is an important step on the road of consolidating peace in Indo-China and that the continuous infringement of this agreement by Saigon with the backing and support of imperialism is threatening the peace and security of the

people in the area and the world as a whole and reiterated their full support for the peoples of Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia in their just struggle for their freedom, independence and sovereignty.

The two sides expressed their support for the legitimate struggle of the peoples of Korea for unifying their homeland and in this respect the two sides points of view agreed that the withdrawal of foreign forces from South Korea under the United Nations flag is a necessary and urgent step.



The two sides denounced racial discrimination policy in South Africa and stressed their full support for the just struggle by the people of the African Continent for their freedom. They also emphasized the importance of the Nonaligned countries role in consolidating peace and struggle against imperialism for political, economic and independence for the benefit of all peoples.

Sd. Saddam Hussein and Herr Horst Sindermann stressed with great satisfaction that cordial relations and political, economic and cultural cooperation between the two countries had developed for the benefit of the people at a quick pace since the establishment of diplomatic relations in May 1969 and with the strong friendship spirit and solidarity ties between the peoples and governments of the two countries.

The two sides discussed ways and means of extending and deepening them and agreed on continuous and long-range development for mutual benefit. In this sense, the two sides regard the official visit by the Chairman of the Ministerial Council of GDR to Iraq of great importance.

On basis of agreement or similarity viewpoint with regard to important international issues the two sides emphasized the importance of joint work at international political level and continuation of consultations about international and bilateral matters in all fields.

Sd. Saddam Hussein and Herr Horst Sindermann noted with satisfaction the development of economic relations between their countries. Towards further strengthening of these relations, a protocol was signed by both sides on the development of economic, scientific and technical cooperation.

The permanent committee meetings are due to start in the first half of 1975 to discuss long-term agreements for the period between 1976-1980 which includes fields of trade and economic, scientific and technical cooperation as well as crude oil supplies.

Herr Sindermann expressed thanks for the warm reception and welcome he received during his stay in friendly Iraq extended to him by officials and the people of Iraq and invited Sd. Saddam Hussein to officially visit the German Democratic Republic. The invitation was accepted with pleasure the date of which will be set later. — INA



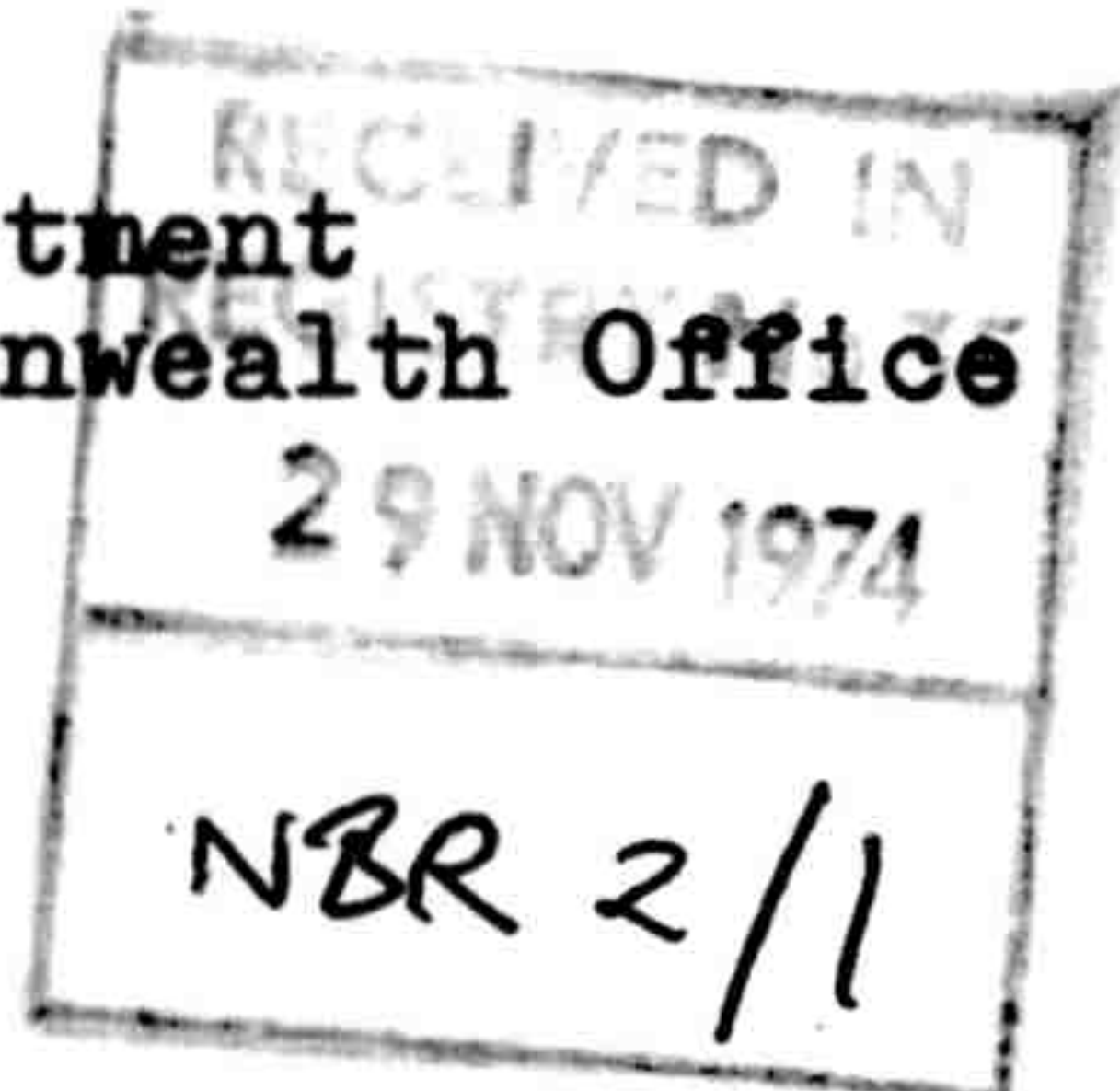


BRITISH EMBASSY

BAGHDAD

25 November 1974

G S Burton Esq  
Middle East Department  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office  
LONDON



cc FED/29/81  
NBR/29/81  
GSD  
29/11  
pa

*See file.*

## AGREEMENTS

1. On 31 October, the Revolutionary Command Council ratified the Technical Co-operation Agreement signed between Iraq and Japan on 16 August this year. The Agreement provided for a US\$ 1,000 million loan from Japan to be used in petroleum and industrial projects, and to be repaid in oil.

2. The RCC has ratified <sup>on 20 November</sup> the Protocol of Technical and Economic Integration and Co-ordination signed by Egypt and Iraq in August. The Protocol provides for participation of Egyptian companies in the National Development Plan, an increase in the number of Nasr cars imported to Iraq, the provision of crude oil to Egypt and co-operation by the two countries in land transport.

3. On 21 November, an Agreement for Cultural and Scientific Co-operation between Iraq and Bulgaria for the years 1975/76 was signed in Baghdad. The Agreement covers various aspects of co-operation in culture, information, education, exchanges of experts and professors, and allocation of training places.

*Yours ever,*  
*K D Temple*  
K D Temple

cc: Research Department, FCO





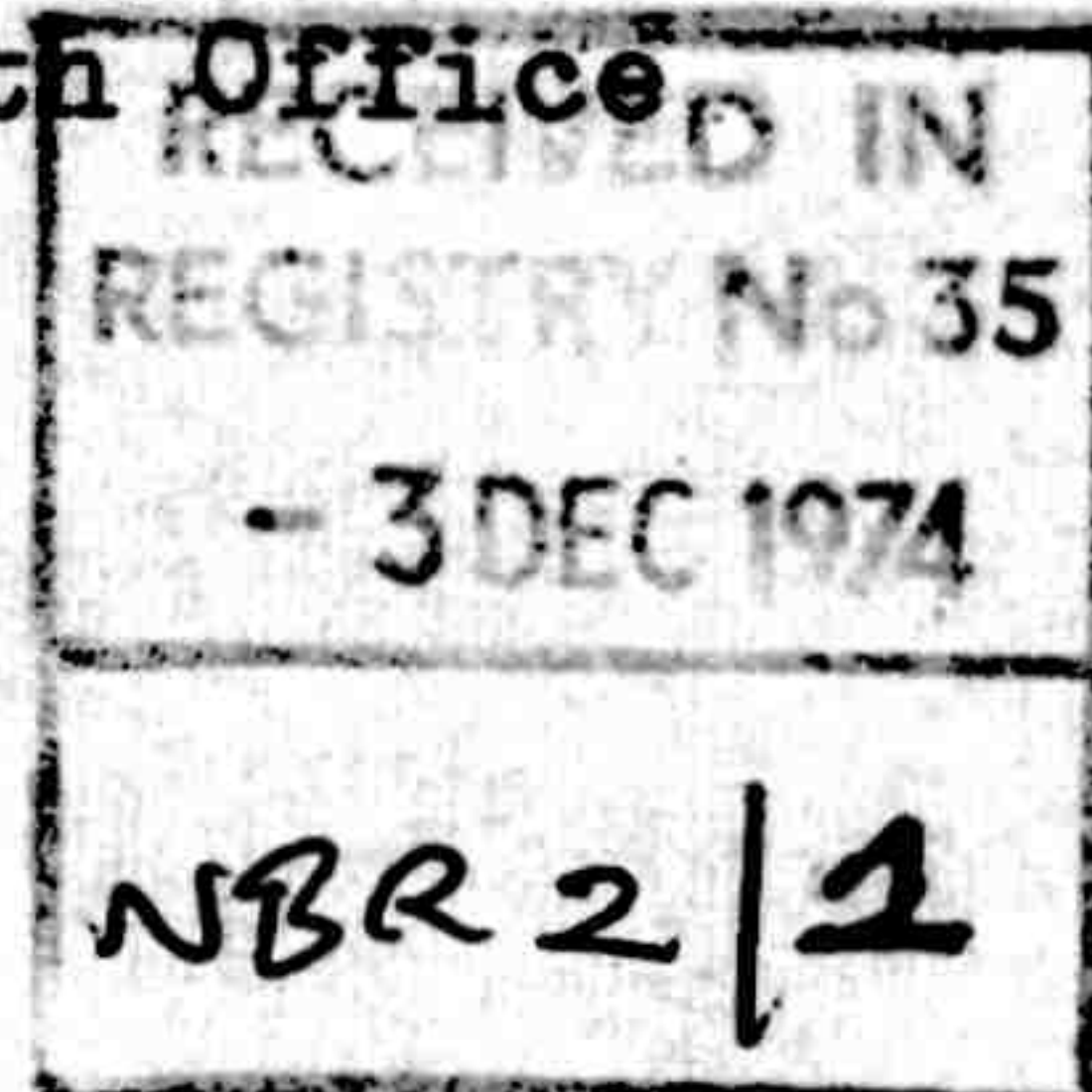
BRITISH EMBASSY

BAGHDAD

28 November 1974

3/4

G S Burton Esq  
Middle East Department  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office  
LONDON



*See Graham*

## IRAQI FOREIGN POLICY

1. I enclose, belatedly, a copy of an article which appeared in the Baghdad Observer on 9 November discussing Iraq's foreign policy. The author's name appears fairly frequently in the Observer, over articles which are better thought out than most, but I have been unable to find out who he is.

2. Of the two main points of interest in the article, the first is the statement of the principles of Iraq's foreign policy. These are listed as:-

- (a) the requirements of the liberation struggle in the Arab Homeland (particularly Palestine and the Gulf);
- (b) the protection of the Revolution in Iraq; and
- (c) participation of the Arab Revolutionary Movement in the world revolutionary movement (with the qualification that the Arab Revolution must maintain its own character.

The second is the description of relations with the Soviet Union:-

"Though the Arab point of view is not identical with that of the Soviet Union and socialist countries, they meet on common ground against all forms of imperialism. Both ..... are taking part on a march, not of co-operation alone, but of a strategical alliance."

*Yours etc,*  
*K D Temple*  
K D Temple



# A DISTINCT FOREIGN POLICY LINE

ABDUL GHAFAR AL-SAEEDI

The ideological and political principles have been determining the strategy of the Iraq regime since the inception of 17th July Revolution. The foreign policy line of Iraq is based on firm grounds which are applied in Iraq's relations with other countries and her international activities.

Iraq, being an Arab country led by a national revolutionary and socialist party, gives the national cause, the first and foremost priority, side by side with the cause of building socialism through development plans, achievements and gains which aim at eliminating inherited remnants of backwardness. For this reason the foreign policy and international activities of Iraq uphold what gives prominence to the national cause and what consolidates and promotes the national existence.

From this angle, we can determine the fundamental consideration of Iraq's foreign policy and her international relations as set by the Political Report of 8th Regional Conference of the Arab Baath Soci-

alist Party. The Report take into consideration the following:

1— Requirements of the liberation struggle and central Arab questions, foremost of which are the Palestine and the Arab Gulf questions.

2— The necessity to protect the revolution in Iraq and maintaining it as a solid base of struggle for the Arab Revolution Movement, seeking to realise its aims in unity, liberty and socialism.

3— The conviction that the Arab Revolution Movement is an integral part of the world revolution movement and that it is necessary to establish an alliance between the two revolutions, in the strive against imperialism, aggression, usurpation and racial discrimina-

tion and also for securing liberty, peace and progress throughout the world with special emphasis on the importance of maintaining the indepen-

at nature and distinct characteristics of the Arab Revolution Movement.

4— The conviction that it is necessary to maintain friendly relations between the Arab people and the peoples of the world in such a way as to

to conform with our principles with regard to brotherhood in cooperation among peoples.

From these considerations we should view the importance given by the revolution to the struggle and revolutionary standards of the Arab Nation as a whole. This also gives the due significance of the alliance between the Arab Revolution Movement and the world liberation movements.

These considerations have been translated into reality in the activities of the revolution on the international level, and in its relations with the various countries.

Iraq has been promoting her relation with the neighbouring countries because of the historical ties and common interests of both Iraq and these countries. For this reason Iraq maintained friendly relations with them. The relations are more closer with others countries which follow a line similar to the Iraqi line in the struggle against imperialism and upholding the non-alignment policy. Iraq's relations with India in an example.

As to relations with Iran, in spite of all her hostile stands and particularly the unilateral abrogation of 1937 Treaty and the attempts to create problems in a continuous manner, as well as her aggression on our eastern border, yet Iraq has been always seeking to put an end to such a state of affairs by peaceful means, understanding, and good intentions. But always keeping in mind the protection of Iraq's interests. Iraq seeks to establish just basis for relations between the two countries which guarantees the sovereignty and common interests of both. The restoration by Iraq of relations with Iran in October, 1973 and the beginning of joint meetings between the representatives of the two countries in Istanbul are a living evidence of Iraq's good intentions.

Iraq gives relations with the socialist countries and the Soviet Union in particular, a special importance. The Political Report gave utmost priority to the question of alliance between the Iraqi Revolution and the international revolution as they are commonly struggling against all forms of imperialism and exploitation.

Though the Arab point of view is not identical with that of the Soviet Union and socialist countries, they meet on common ground against all forms of imperialism. Since both are elements of the international revolution, they are taking part on a march not of cooperation alone, but of a strategical alliance. This is what in reality is represented by the Iraqi Soviet Treaty and the many aspects of close and fruitful cooperation between the two sides. This is a living example of friendship, continuity and growth of relations.

As to Iraq's relations with European and, Western countries and Japan, they are determined by the stands of those countries towards our causes. It is natural that our relations clash acutely with the imperialist countries of this world group. We have sought to eliminate the consequences of the policies of the imperialist countries in our country. We are committed also to the struggle against the new forms of exploitation followed by imperialist countries which are trying to prolong their influence. In this regard the political Report set the following fundamental indicators:

1— The imperialist countries, in view of Iraq, are the United States in the first place and every other state which cooperates with her in her aggressive policy against the Arab cause.

2— The conflict between us and those countries and particularly the U.S. is an acute, basic and long-term one. It cannot be settled without drastic changes in the attitude and policies of U.S. toward our basic causes. We have to carefully study the change in line on the part of these countries.



3— The struggle against imperialist powers takes various forms, such as the political, ideological and information. Our economic struggle against imperialist countries is regarded by us as basic and essential to liquidate the interests of such powers and secure our economic independence.

4— International relations is a pure question of reality. It should not be ruled by emotions. Our hostility towards and struggle against imperialist powers do not prevent us from dealing with them in matters which serve our interests and in such a manner as not to violate our principles.

5— The western capitalist world is not entirely made of hostile imperialist powers. There are some countries which take a relatively favourable stand towards us. There are some other countries with whom we maintain normal friendly relations.

---

No doubt Iraq's independent line, her national and patriotic interests and the requirements of our present age make it necessary to establish relations with those countries in all fields and within the context of fraternity and co-operation among peoples.

The main characteristic of Iraq's foreign policy is its hostility to imperialism, consolidation of just struggle for freedom and liberation and the positions of the Arab struggle.

In conclusion Iraq's foreign policy stems from the principle of maintaining and consolidating Iraq's political independence and the quest for Arab unity.

---



UNCLASSIFIED

(34)

BRITISH EMBASSY

BAGHDAD

28 November 1974

cc NENAD  
2/12  
1a

Chancery  
DAMASCUS

RECEIVED IN REGISTRY No 35 - 3 DEC 1974
NBR 2/1

Dear Chancery

1. It has been reported in the Press here that Mukarram al-Talabani, the Minister of Irrigation (and, incidentally, the only Communist Minister who holds a port-folio), was in Damascus between 18 and 21 November 1974 for talks with the Minister of the Euphrates Dam. We understand the subject of the talks was the regulation of the winter flow of the Euphrates, and the filling of the Tabaq and Habbaniya reservoirs, in Syria and Iraq respectively.

Yours ever

Chancery

cc: Middle East Department  
FCO ✓

UNCLASSIFIED



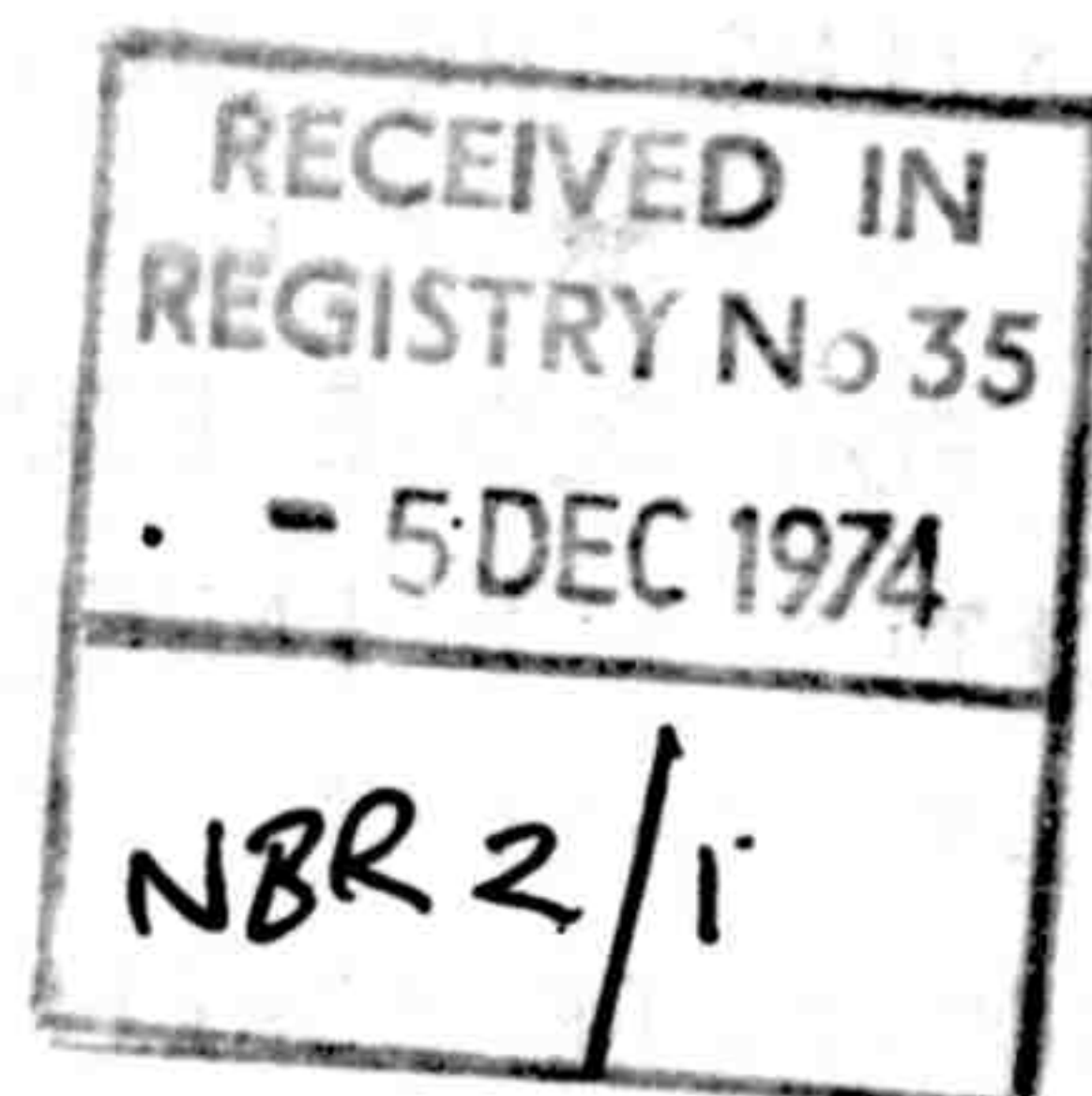
CONFIDENTIAL

GRS 480/2

CYPHER CAT A

FM BAGHDAD 030700Z DEC

CONFIDENTIAL



TOP COPY

11/12  
11/12  
11/12

74

TO ROUTINE FCC TELNO 462 OF 3 DECEMBER/ INFO ROUTINE PARIS.

VISIT OF FRENCH PRIME MINISTER.

1. RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINE WERE BRIEFED BY M. CHIRAC BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE FOR ATHENS ON 2 DECEMBER.

BRIEFING, WHICH WAS SANDWICHED BETWEEN PRESS CONFERENCE AND LUNCHEON, WAS DELIVERED AT STACCATO SPEED WITH LITTLE TIME FOR QUESTIONING. FOLLOWING ARE MAIN POINTS.

2. CONVERSATIONS WITH SADDAM HUSSEIN (VICE CHAIRMAN RCC) HAD TOTALLED 6 HOURS. THEY WERE DESCRIBED BY M. CHIRAC AS VERY CORDIAL WITH COMPLETE IDENTITY OF VIEWS THROUGHOUT. HE HAD FOUND HIS VISIT MOST USEFUL AND INSTRUCTIVE.

3. BILATERAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AGREEMENT HAD BEEN REACHED ON A NUMBER OF IMPORTANT PROJECTS. M CHIRAC DID NOT ELABORATE BEYOND SAYING THAT THESE HAD INCLUDED AGREEMENT THAT IRAQ WOULD ADOPT SECAM TV SYSTEM.

4. BILATERAL POLITICAL QUESTIONS. M CHIRAC DID NOT ELABORATE BUT GAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT NO CONTENTIOUS ISSUES EXISTED.

5. MULTILATERAL POLITICAL QUESTIONS

---

(A) EURO-ARAB WORLD. M CHIRAC HAD EXPLAINED THE REASONING BEHIND THE FRENCH PRESIDENT'S PROPOSAL FOR A "CONFERENCE A TROIS" ON ENERGY POLICY. HE HAD BEEN VERY PLEASED TO FIND SADDAM HUSSEIN IN AGREEMENT. LATTER HAD BEEN HIGHLY CRITICAL OF ECG WHICH HE WAS CERTAIN WOULD LEAD TO CONFRONTATION WITH

CONFIDENTIAL

/ PRODUCERS. AS TO



**CONFIDENTIAL**

PRODUCERS. AS TO IRAQ'S PARTICIPATION IN THE CONFERENCE, IT HAD BEEN AGREED BETWEEN THEM THAT THIS WAS A MATTER FOR OPEC. FRENCH WERE DELIBERATELY LEAVING THE QUESTION OF PARTICIPATION TO BE DECIDED BY THE GROUPS OF COUNTRIES CONCERNED. M CHIRAC HAD ELABORATED FRENCH IDEAS FOR CLOSE ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL CO-OPERATION BETWEEN A "UNITED AND INDEPENDENT EUROPE AND A UNITED AND INDEPENDENT ARAB WORLD". HE HAD BEEN HAPPY TO FIND SADDAM HUSSEIN IN COMPLETE AGREEMENT.

(B) IRAQ/USSR. SADDAM HUSSEIN HAD STARTLED M CHIRAC BY HIS CRITICISM OF THE USSR AND A STATEMENT THAT IRAQ NEEDED TO BREAK AWAY FROM HER PRESENT DEPENDENCE UPON THE COMMUNIST BLOC.

(C) ARAB/ISRAEL. THE FRENCH POSITION HAD BEEN DISCUSSED AT LENGTH. SADDAM HAD EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES WOULD ADOPT A SIMILAR APPROACH.

6. M CHIRAC SAID HE HAD NOT RAISED THE MATTER OF IRANIAN AND SAUDI PROPOSALS ON OIL PRICES. IT HAD LONG BEEN THE FRENCH VIEW THAT THE INDUSTRIALISED WORLD COULD NOT EXPECT PRICES TO REMAIN ARTIFICIALLY LOW FOR VERY LONG. RECENT INCREASES HAD ADMITTEDLY BEEN BRUTAL IN THEIR APPLICATION BUT NOT UNEXPECTED.

7. THERE HAD BEEN NO SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION OF THE KURDISTAN QUESTION.

8. FULL TEXT OF COMMUNIQUE ISSUED TODAY FOLLOWS BY BAG.

GRAHAM

DEPARTMENTAL DISTN

MED	NEWS D
WED	IRD
LEID	RBS D
LEN D	(NE. SOV & AMER SECTIONS)
STD	
FRD	
ECONOMISTS D	
RES D	
NEAD	
NAM D	
GIPD	



CONFIDENTIAL

COPY

36

Mr Giddens

Mr Lomas

RECEIVED IN REGISTRY NO 35 10 DEC 1974
NBR 2/1

cc GED 9/11 M 9/12  
in Williams  
my clear 9/12  
9/12 WS pa

1. The Finnish Ambassador told me he had just had a call from the Bulgarian Ambassador who leaves Iraq a very sad and disgruntled man. He came here to oversee the execution of the construction of the new airport, for which the Bulgarians had won the contract. 5 years later they have received only I.D. 600,000 out of the ID 5 million contract, the Iraqis refusing to sign a final acceptance and complaining that the Bulgarians have used second rate equipment e.g. in electric cables. The airport was in fact taken over prematurely for use in the Russian airlift at the time of the October War and the Bulgarian is proposing to say to Mr Saddam Hussein that either the airport was completed and the Iraqis accepted it at that time, or it was not accepted by Iraq and is therefore Bulgarian property for which a rent for its use should be paid equivalent to the money outstanding on the contract!

2. The Bulgarian Ambassador said that working in Iraq has been a very disillusioning process. All the socialist countries had come here eager to replace the West and were retiring with their tails between their legs. When the Bulgarians had finished the one project they were negotiating, they would do no more work here. They carried out work here at a loss and the delays upset their own 5-year planning. This applied not only to Bulgaria but also to Czechoslovakia and Poland.

J A N Graham

28 November 1974

Copy to:

Middle East Department, FCO  
Chancery: Sofia  
Prague  
Warsaw

CONFIDENTIAL



37

# EXPORT CREDITS GUARANTEE DEPARTMENT

P.O. BOX NO. 272, ALDERMANBURY HOUSE, ALDERMANBURY, LONDON EC2P 2EL

Telex : 883601

Telephone : 01-606 6699



I E Rich Esq  
HM Treasury  
Great George Street  
LONDON  
SW1P 3AG

CONFIDENTIAL

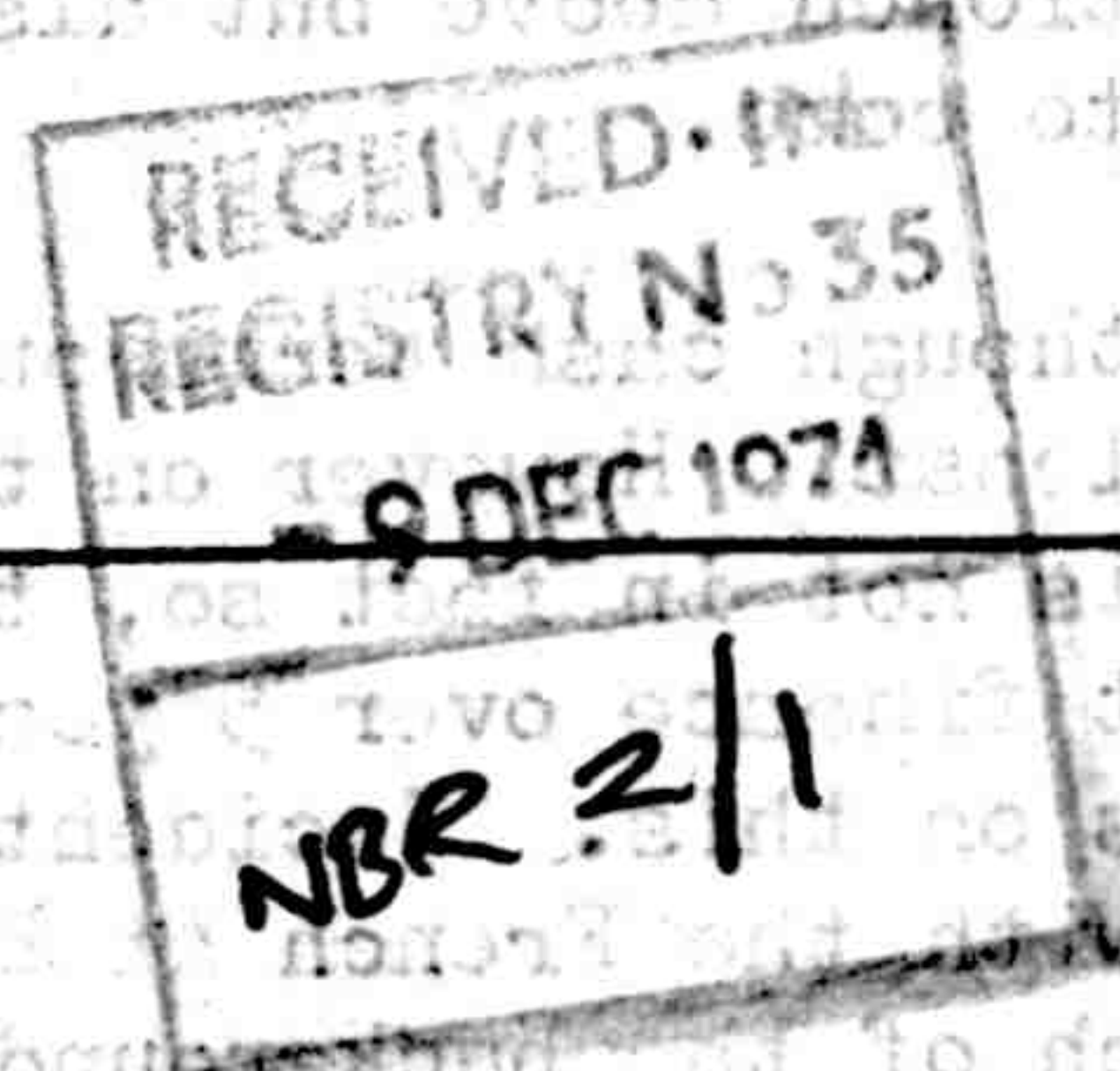
Your reference

Our reference

FG136/98000

Date

5 December 1974



cc + enc  
✓  
MS/9/12  
pa

Dear

EGC CASE NO 1293

GEC - IRAQ/SYRIAN OIL PIPELINE

We have received on behalf of GEC Gas Turbines Ltd a request for an indication of financial guarantee support for their possible involvement in the construction of a pipeline between the Iraq/Syrian border to the Banias terminal on the eastern Mediterranean coastline.

2. Entrepouse of France would be the main contractors in this \$200 million project to duplicate the existing pipeline and so increase daily capacity from 1.2 million barrels to 2.4 million barrels. A letter of intent has been issued to Entrepouse by the Syrian Company for Oil Transport (SCOT), but is conditional upon the Iraqi Government's accepting the project and providing the necessary installations in Iraq.

3. Of the total estimated cost of the Syrian end of the pipeline (\$200m), only orders totalling some \$15-20m appear likely to come to the UK. GEC Gas Turbines Ltd are the first UK exporters to approach us, their prospective contract being for the supply, installation and commissioning of 3 turbines with pumps, at an estimated \$12m. GEC say the French are thought to be considering 85% finance repayable over 8 years from commissioning (though they have no proof of this) and are asking us to support similar terms.

4. On close consideration there do not appear any convincing reasons for concessionary terms: even if the French are offering 8 years there does not appear to be a matching situation. The Kuwaitis are likely to provide a loan of some \$110/120m, and with the Syrians financing approximately \$50m locals from their own resources this leaves only a balance \$30/40m to come from France and the UK. As Entrepouse are the principals, the substantial amount payable in cash, mostly for steel pipe (although French sources may not be able to provide it all), is likely to be directed into the French economy, and this would of course make it easier for them to offer long credit for their share of the related small \$30/\$40m element.

5. Moreover, we are told that GEC have been trading successfully in Iraq and Syria for several years on a cash basis, and that at present SCOT was in the process of ordering 7 turbines from GEC through Entrepouse on cash terms, with a possibility of

cc. MED.



I E Rich Esq

orders for a further 10 units. On the other hand, GEC say they are worried that if the UK failed to offer any financial support for the present proposal the Syrians would probably look elsewhere; they fear this could be the beginning of their being replaced by competitors offering finance, leading not only to the loss of the substantial orders mentioned above but also to their exclusion from both Syria and Iraq for some time to come.

6. On balance, it seems as though cash terms ought still to be possible for these turbines, in theory at least. However on the assumption that GEC are right in their judgement that this is not in fact so, the maximum support we could recommend would be 80 per cent finance over 5 years under Section 2, and I should be grateful to have your views on this. Incidentally, I understand that you attended a bilateral meeting with the French at Beaune in early October when this business was discussed, so much of the background will be familiar to you.

7. The Appendix to this letter paraphrases present knowledge of the Syrian economy. Though the general conclusion which may be drawn from this is one of general optimism nevertheless the dependence of the Syrian economy upon external assistance and the present climate influence us to propose that cover for large Contracts (and for UK involvement in large Contracts) be considered under Section 2.

8. I look forward to hearing from you at an early date as we are once again under pressure.

Yours sincerely

T W Denyer

cc G M Lambert - Bank of England  
T J Wilshire - ODM  
S N Chilton - DOT  
P G F Bryant - DOT/OPG  
E R C Holland - FCO

V I Chapman )  
K G Lockwood ) - ECGD  
C M Bosson )  
R L Balfour - Damascus



## APPENDIX

### SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC

#### THE SYRIAN ECONOMY

Though there has been some industrialisation of the Syrian economy over the last decade and improvements have been made in the agricultural sector the economy is still very much dependent upon the agricultural sector. In 1972 agriculture employed 2/3rds of the labour force, and accounted for 22% of GDP (against 21% by industry and 19% by trade and finance). Agricultural exports predominantly cotton account for approximately 50% of Syria's export earnings.

2 Though a member of OAPEC Syria's oil production is small and she is exempt from contributions to the OAPEC fund for non-oil Arab States affected by rising prices. Nevertheless oil exports have made a reasonable contribution to exports - in 1972 exports of 4m tons accounted for 18% of export earnings.

3 Because of the importance of the agricultural sector economic health has been affected by climatic conditions; the confrontation with Israel has had a regressive effect of varying dimensions overtime on economic growth. Drought conditions in 1973 and the Yom Kippur war in the last half of that year are calculated to have yielded no growth in GDP during that year as compared with 11.2% during 1972.

4 The completion of the Euphrates dam project in 1974/5 should, by its contribution to irrigation and stable water supply in the main agricultural area, diminish the dependence upon natural supply and lead to improvements (or at worst greater stability) in agricultural production. Oil production is increasing with exports scheduled at 8m tons for 1974 and 12-15m tons in 1975; with enhanced prices these will have an increasing impact on Syria's own capacity to earn foreign exchange. The IMF opinion is that given a reasonable agricultural year the outlook is favourable for a resumption of a high growth rate overall.

5 Syria's own resources have in the past been supplemented by assistance from other States, and particularly by assistance from oil-rich Arabs States; these have figured importantly in both internal and external finances.

6 Large budgetary deficits (amounting for 1972 to about 28% of total current and capital expenditure) have been covered in part by such assistance (of the 1972 deficit of S£731m 22% was covered in this way). Projected figures for 1973 indicate a larger deficit of S£795m, (on a total expenditure of £2886m) with Arab assistance funds covering 106% of the deficit thus yielding an overall surplus and enabling the Syrian Government to reduce considerably the overall public sector borrowing from the banking system. The budgets for 1974 and 1975 indicate considerable expansions of expenditure over the levels previously current (S£4300m and S£6500m against S£2671m in 1972). Continuing deficits will arise and the expectation is that these will continue to be covered by Arab assistance.

7. As regards external finances a small balance of payments surplus was achieved in 1972. For 1973 exports amounted to US\$340m while imports rose to US\$594m; traditionally a surplus on invisible account counterbalances part of the deficit on visible but Arab aid assistance is expected to more than account for the balance and to contribute to an overall surplus of SDR180m for 1973, yielding a further increase to foreign reserves (estimated \$479m at November 1973). Prospects for 1974 suggest exports of SDR 500m almost solely due to oil production increases and price rises; Imports are expected to rise to about SDR 800m through higher prices of imports



generally and of oil products and through higher reconstruction and development imports. The predicted outturn for 1974 is a final deficit of about SDR 200m, this being covered, or over covered by Arab aid.

8. Debt Service levels are comparatively low (excluding military debt for which no figures are available). In 1971/2 debt service amounted to approximately 13% of export earnings of goods and services and in 1973 to 11%. The IBRD expect this level to prevail over the rest of this decade.

9. While continued Arab support for Syrian economy is by no means certain nevertheless there is every indication that such support is forthcoming and in increasing volume. Reliable statistics on aid contributions to Syria are very difficult to obtain but UAE support in the form of tied project assistance (for Syrian purchase of turbines and a cotton spinning plant valued at £20m) is known and contributions both untied and tied to particular development from UAE and other Arab States is reported with increasing frequency. It is more rather than less likely given the Syrian position that aid will continue to be made available at high levels to maintain and develop the Syrian economy generally.

#### ECGD POSITION

10. As a result of adverse experience in 1967 (delays in payment on private sector debt) ECGD provided no cover under Section 1 on this market until 1971 when the increasing Arab assistance became most marked. The opportunity was then taken to differentiate between public sector business (on which payment experience was and continues to be satisfactory so far as ECGD and other insurers are concerned) and private sector business (where even now other insurers are reporting transfer delays). For public sector business short term cover is available (subject to adequate security) and a small limit (of £1.5m pa) has been established to cover medium term business. Commitments against this limit are minimal - £0.116m in 1974 with an offer outstanding which will commit a further £0.072 in 1974 and £0.162m in each of the subsequent years until 1978. Section 2 liabilities (in respect of an arms contract) amount to £0.217m and £0.022m in 1974 and 1975 respectively.



CONFIDENTIAL



Q/17 TRED, WED  
copy to Mr. Brown CRES, DOT (38)  
with end to Mr. Lockton, En. Dept for para. 2  
Mr. Buchan, GIPD " - 3

Mr. Burt 10/12

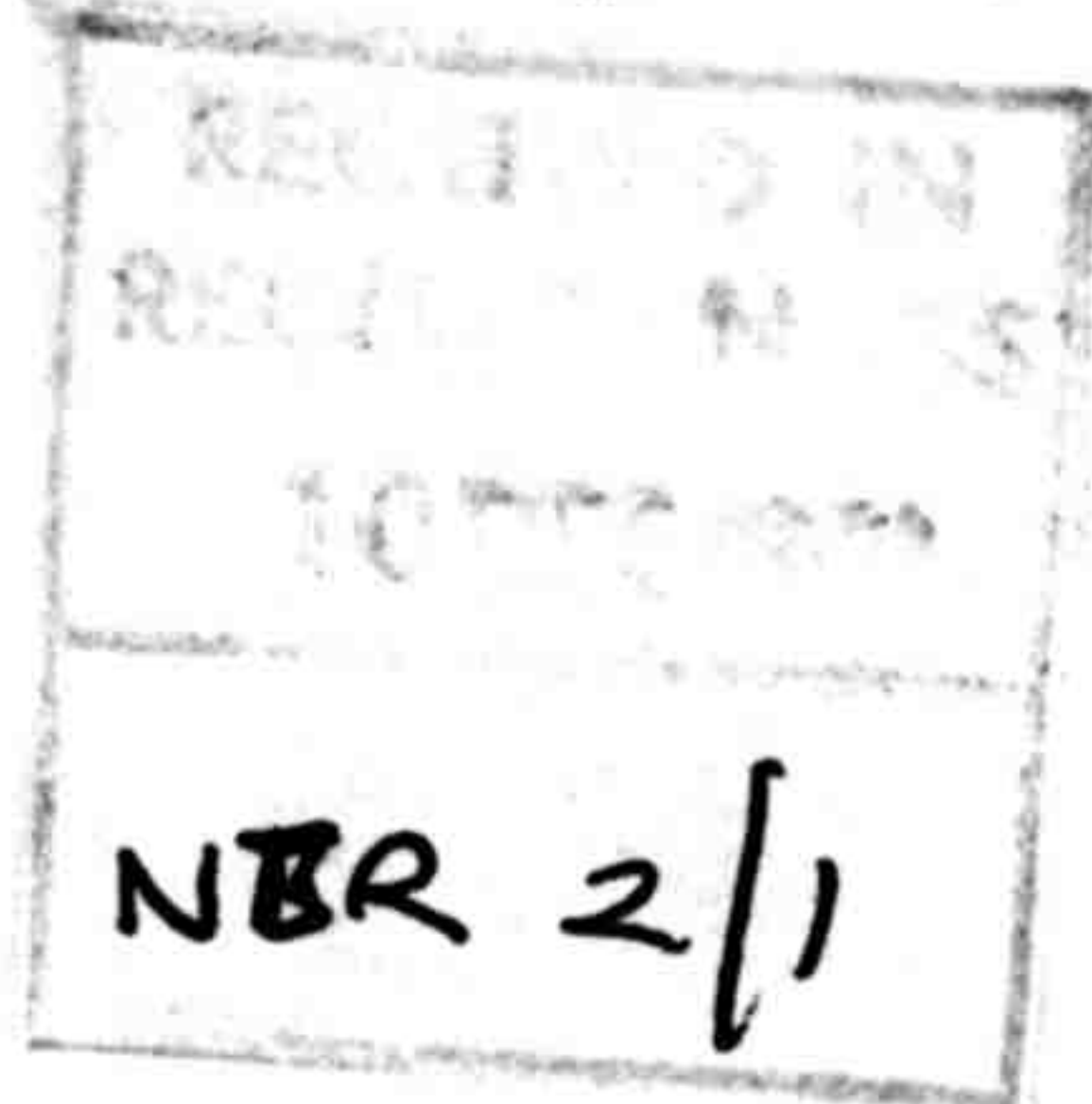
BRITISH EMBASSY  
PARIS  
10/12

T J Clark Esq  
Middle East Department  
FCO

There is a...

6 December 1974

copy to Mr. Hall  
10/11



10/12  
pa

Dear Clark.

#### FRENCH PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO IRAQ

1. Baghdad telegram No 462 reported M Chirac's briefing to the Ambassadors of the Nine on the results of his visit to Iraq. I have had a word with the sous-directeur du Levant in the Quai d'Orsay, who accompanied Chirac.
2. Rouillon said that in the political discussions, Saddam Hussein expressed hostility to the International Energy Authority, and said that he approved the French decision not to participate in it. The Iraqis were favourable to Giscard's proposal for a tripartite energy conference, though Rouillon added that the Iraqis wanted the conference to discuss the price of oil in relation to that of manufactured goods and other commodities, and not in isolation. Saddam Hussein also expressed support for the Europe/Arab "dialogue". He did not labour the point about Palestinian representation, saying that this was a "procedural" problem to which he looked to the French and others to find a solution. On the Arab/Israel dispute, nothing new was said. Chirac re-affirmed the French commitment to the existence of the State of Israel within the 1967 frontiers (and reminded the Iraqis that the Russians were also committed to this). Saddam Hussein said that the setting up of the Zionist State was an illegal act. He seemed pre-occupied by the Kurdish problem - not about the military operations which he claimed were going well, but about Iranian support for the Kurds which he said the Iranians "no longer bothered to hide".
3. But the main interest of the visit was economic: it was another episode in the French campaign to off-set the increasing oil deficit by the government-led expansion of exports to the oil producers. When Jobert returned from Iraq in February, the Quai told us that the French regarded Iraq as a particularly promising market from their point of view (partly, they admit, because of Iraqi resistance to the "Anglo-Saxons"). Chirac was able, while in Baghdad, to sign the contract for the French SECAM colour television system. The French make no secret of the fact that they believe that in Iraq, as in Saudi Arabia, the local government chose SECAM as against the German PAL system partly at least for political reasons.

CONFIDENTIAL





4. Rouillon added that the Pechiney aluminium contract was also well advanced. The French were bidding for the construction by Creusot-Loire of a petro-chemical complex at Basrah. They are also trying to win an important tele-communications contract, and to sell the Airbus. Other possible projects are a car and lorry factory and a military hospital. Rouillon commented, however, that most of these projects were still far from the contract stage. It was unrealistic to pretend, as the French press (stimulated by Chirac himself) had done, that the French were on the verge of winning contracts worth 15 billion francs. But French exports to Iraq had doubled, from £34 million in 1973 to well over £60 million so far this year, and it did not seem impossible that they might be doubled again next year. (This has to be set against the increased cost of French oil imports from Iraq - from £205 million in 1973 to £330 million in the first eight months of 1974.)

5. All in all, this seems to have been a pretty typical performance by Chirac, who found it necessary to say that Iraq represented "nationalism in the best sense of the word" and that there was "a profound convergence of views" between France and Iraq. But the operation seems to have been a successful one from the French point of view; and it will shortly be followed up by a Chirac visit to Tehran.

6. I enclose a copy of the communiqué issued after the visit.

*Team work.*

*Robin Renwick*

R W Renwick

Enc.

cc.

Miss C Sinclair, European Integration Dept (External), FCO - for para 2

A J M Craig Esq, Near East and North African Dept, FCO - for para 2

Chancery: BAGHDAD  
TEHRAN

*Ans so far  
1. 1974 are  
from.*



## COMMUNIQUE FRANCO-IRAKIEN

BAGDAD - 2 décembre 1974

A l'invitation de M. Saddam Hussein, Vice-Président du Conseil de Commandement de la Révolution de la République Irakienne, M. Jacques CHIRAC, Premier Ministre du Gouvernement de la République Française, s'est rendu en visite officielle et amicale en Irak du 30 novembre au 2 décembre 1974.

M. Jacques Chirac et la délégation qui l'accompagnait ont été reçus avec tous les honneurs correspondant aux profondes relations d'amitié qui unissent les peuples des deux pays.

M. Jacques Chirac et la délégation française ont constaté durant leur visite les progrès accomplis par le Gouvernement irakien sous la conduite du Parti Baathiste arabe socialiste et ont apprécié les résultats obtenus par le Gouvernement irakien pour renforcer l'indépendance économique du pays et mettre les richesses nationales au service du progrès social du peuple irakien.

M. Jacques Chirac et M. Saddam Hussein se sont entretenus des relations bilatérales et des problèmes internationaux intéressant les deux pays.

Ont participé aux entretiens, du côté irakien :

M. Adnan HAMDANI, membre de la Direction régionale du Parti et Secrétaire Général du Comité d'action pour le pétrole et les accords, le Dr Saadoun HAMADI, Ministre des Affaires Etrangères, M. Mohammed Sabri EL HADITHI, Secrétaire d'Etat aux Affaires Etrangères, M. Salih Mehdi AMMASH, Ambassadeur d'Irak en France M. Ibrahim El WALLI, Directeur Général du Département des Affaires Politiques du Ministère des Affaires Etrangères, et un certain nombre d'experts ;

- du côté français : M. Norbert SEGARD, Secrétaire d'Etat au Commerce extérieur, M. Bernard DESTREMAU, Secrétaire d'Etat aux Affaires Etrangères, M. Pierre CERLES, Ambassadeur de France en Irak.



Au cours des entretiens qui se sont déroulés dans un climat de grande cordialité et de confiance, les relations amicales franco-irakiennes ont été réaffirmées. Les deux parties ont constaté avec satisfaction le développement de ces relations dans l'intérêt de la France et de l'Irak. Elles ont examiné l'ensemble des problèmes qui les concernent et sont convenues de se consulter régulièrement à ce sujet.

Elles se sont trouvées d'accord pour souligner l'égal attachement des deux gouvernements aux principes de l'indépendance nationale, du respect de l'indépendance des autres Etats, de la non-ingérence, ainsi que de la coopération entre tous les pays épris de paix. A cet égard, le Premier Ministre et le Vice-Président ont souligné l'importance du dialogue engagé entre les Etats européens et les Etats arabes que l'histoire a rendus complémentaires et auxquels les problèmes présents comme les perspectives d'avenir imposent, de l'avis de la France et de l'Irak, la coopération dans tous les domaines.

Les deux parties ont réaffirmé la nécessité de régler les problèmes internationaux, où qu'ils se posent, par des voies pacifiques, conformément à la Charte des Nations-Unies, au droit international et aux traités. La partie irakienne a exposé à la partie française les préoccupations que lui cause la situation dans la région et dans le Golfe. En ce qui concerne en particulier le problème du Proche-Orient, les deux parties ont confirmé leurs propres conceptions. Elles ont marqué la nécessité du retrait des forces israéliennes des territoires occupés en vue de l'instauration d'une paix juste et durable dans le respect des droits du peuple palestinien. A ce sujet, la partie irakienne a marqué son appréciation de l'attitude française dans la question palestinienne comme sur l'ensemble des problèmes arabes.

Abordant la question de la crise de l'énergie, les deux parties ont confirmé la nécessité et l'importance d'un dialogue dans ce domaine entre pays producteurs et pays consommateurs. A cet égard, le gouvernement irakien a indiqué qu'il



avait accueilli avec faveur la proposition du Président de la République Française d'une conférence multilatérale des pays producteurs et consommateurs de pétrole, compte tenu également des problèmes que posent l'inflation mondiale et les autres matières premières.

Les deux parties se sont félicitées du développement des relations économiques, industrielles et techniques des deux pays : elles ont constaté que les échanges entre la France et l'Irak avaient évolué très favorablement et avaient connu en 1974 une augmentation substantielle. Elles ont relevé avec satisfaction l'intensification de la coopération industrielle et l'effort déjà largement engagé en matière de formation du personnel et de transfert de technologie. Elles ont noté à cet égard que, pour l'exécution du plan irakien, d'importants contrats industriels ont été confiés à des entreprises françaises.

La partie irakienne a fait connaître les grandes lignes du prochain plan quinquennal et les deux parties sont convenues d'encourager une participation française en rapport avec les objectifs de ce plan. A cette fin, le gouvernement français interviendra auprès des sociétés pour les inciter à travailler en Irak dans un esprit conforme à l'Accord de Coopération du 12 mars 1974.

Dans le domaine de la télévision en couleur, le gouvernement irakien a fait connaître sa décision d'adopter le système français SECAM. En prenant acte de cette décision, les représentants français ont fait part à la partie irakienne de leur volonté d'apporter tout leur appui à la réalisation rapide de cette opération.

Il a été entendu d'autre part que la coopération en matière agricole ferait l'objet d'une attention spéciale qu'a soulignée la visite du 1er au 4 novembre de M. BONNET, Ministre français de l'Agriculture. Les deux parties ont décidé de créer



un groupe de travail mixte pour les affaires agricoles, qui se réunira dans le cadre de l'Accord du 12 mars 1974.

En ce qui concerne le domaine industriel et dans l'esprit de coopération qui les anime, les deux parties ont passé en revue d'une part les projets en cours de discussion, d'autre part les possibilités de coopération à plus long terme dans le domaine de l'énergie, y compris l'utilisation pacifique de l'énergie nucléaire, dans les domaines de la pétrochimie et des activités en matière de chimie et de produits pharmaceutiques, dans ceux de l'aluminium, des télécommunications, de la construction navale, de l'aviation civile, de la construction automobile ainsi que dans le domaine hospitalier. Les deux parties ont établi un programme de coopération en ce qui concerne l'informatique et l'électronique afin de faire bénéficier la partie irakienne de la technologie mise au point par l'industrie et les laboratoires français.

A la suite des réunions tenues sous la présidence de M. HAMDANI et de M. SEGARD, des programmes de travail ont été mis au point dans les différentes branches indiquées ci-dessus. Il a été entendu d'autre part que le Secrétaire d'Etat français au Commerce Extérieur effectuera à cet effet en 1975 un voyage spécial auquel participeront des chefs d'entreprises français.

Les deux parties se sont également félicitées de l'accord conclu le 18 novembre 1974 en matière de trafic aérien et qui est de nature à favoriser le développement des relations entre ressortissants et entreprises des deux pays.

La partie française s'est déclarée prête à apporter aux autorités irakiennes son appui à un large programme de formation technologique et professionnelle dans l'esprit du présent communiqué.

Dans le domaine culturel, les deux parties ont passé en revue l'état de la coopération entre les deux pays et ont pris note des programmes déjà mis au point sur le plan de



l'enseignement supérieur, comme sur celui de la coopération technique, notamment en ce qui concerne la santé et la médecine, ainsi que la marine marchande, le pétrole et l'agriculture. Elles ont reconnu à cet égard qu'un nouvel effort pouvait être engagé en vue de parfaire les relations des deux pays, qu'il s'agisse de la connaissance de la langue ou de la formation scientifique et technique : à cet effet les autorités irakiennes adresseront au Secrétaire d'Etat français aux Universités une invitation à se rendre en Irak.

Enfin, M. Jacques CHIRAC et la délégation qui l'accompagnait ont tenu à faire part de la grande satisfaction qu'ils ont éprouvée pour l'accueil particulièrement chaleureux qui leur a été réservé et ils ont exprimé à leurs hôtes irakiens leurs très vifs remerciements.





BA GH DAD

G S Burton Esq  
Middle East Department  
F C O

nt RECEIVED IN  
REGISTRATION  
19 DEC 1974  
NBR 2/1

Lee Graham

Chirac's briefing

1. I have recorded the main points of M Chirac's briefing of Resident Representatives of the Nine - our Tel No 462 - given at the end of his 3-day visit. While we have yet to obtain much firm information to fill in the gaps left by the briefing and the communique (a copy of which I enclose), you may care to have the following first impressions by this bag.

2. From the Iraqi point of view the visit was certainly a success and no doubt much comfort will have been derived from what the Iraqis will regard as French approval for their stand on the "Occupied Territories". Indeed much is already being made in the local press of references in Beirut newspapers to the unanimity of view between the two. In some ways no doubt the Iraqis do see themselves as the Gaullists of the Arab world - see M Chirac's remarks at the outset of his press conference (page 2 of the enclosure). These will have been well received by Saddam Hussein. The two have much in common.

3. The visit is certainly to be seen as a further step in Iraq's policy of moving out of its position of isolation from the Arab world in particular. Having at least the implication of French approval for some of its policies will have been the object of the whole exercise.

4. In the economic field the French will have ensured that they are well placed to pick up some lucrative contracts but it is not yet clear just what has actually been given them. The following are the major projects where their chances of success are either certain or at least pretty good:

- (i) Colour TV: the Iraqis are to adopt the SECAM system. TV sets are to be assembled locally and the French will of course be very well placed to get this contract.
- (ii) Letters of Intent have been issued to French firms for the construction of:
  - a. an aluminium rolling mill, and
  - b. the first stage of the proposed Basra petro-chemical complex.

/ (iii)



CONFIDENTIAL



(iii) The reference in the communique to hospital equipment refers first to the extension to Medical City (for which a British firm are the consultants) and secondly to the "Military Hospital" outside Baghdad, for which a consortium led by Cementation Ltd have been short-listed. As far as we can determine, no final decision on this particular contract has yet been taken, though the French are confident that it will go to a French firm.

5. As you will see from the communique, the French Minister of State for Foreign Trade is to come here in 1975 for further discussions on these and other areas of co-operation.

6. There are, as I have said, a number of gaps to be filled in - in particular we have no information on what is meant by the references to civil aviation, the motor car industry and co-operation in the fields of nuclear energy and agriculture. We will report further as and when more information becomes available.

7. Finally, you will have noted that M Chirac was not received by President Bakr - further confirmation, if such were needed, that the President is ill - probably seriously.

*per se*  
*dit*

R G Giddens

Copied to:  
Chancery, Paris

Enc

CONFIDENTIAL



# IRAQI-FRENCH COMMON STAND MIDDLE EAST ON SITUATION IN MIDDLE EAST

**WITHDRAWAL OF ZIONIST FORCES FROM OCCUPIED  
TERRITORIES A PRE-CONDITION FOR JUST PEACE**

**JOINT COMMUNIQUE STRESSES IMPORTANCE OF A  
EUROPEAN ARAB DIALOGUE**

**COMMON DESIRE FOR MAINTAINING COOPERATION IN  
VARIOUS ECONOMIC & INDUSTRIAL SPHERES**

Iraq and France have accentuated their viewpoints towards the situation in the Middle East and pronounced agreement on the necessity of the withdrawal of the Zionist forces from all occupied Arab territories as a pre-condition for the establishment of just and lasting peace within the framework of respecting the rights of the people of Palestine.

The two parties also stressed the importance of a European-Arab dialogue and reiterated common desire for maintaining cooperation in various spheres.

This was contained in a joint communiqué released yesterday at the end of the official visit made to Iraq by M. Jacques Chirac, Prime Minister of France, on invitation from Sd. Saddam Hussein, ROC Vice-Chairman.

Following is an unofficial translation of the communiqué:

"At the invitation of Sd. Saddam Hussein, ROC Vice-Chairman in the Republic of Iraq, M. Jacques Chirac, Prime Minister of the Republic of France paid an official goodwill visit to Iraq from November 30 to December 2, 1974. M. Chirac and his party were accorded such a welcome as befits the friendly relations which hold the peoples of the two countries together.

"In the course of the visit, M. Chirac and the French delegation obtained first-hand information on the progress made by the government of Iraq under the leadership of the Arab Baath Socialist Party and valued the results attained by the government of Iraq in the way of cementing the country's economic independence and placing national wealths in the service of the social progress of the people of Iraq.

"M. Chirac and Sd. Saddam Hussein reviewed bilateral relations as well as international issues of common interest to both countries. Joining in the talks on the Iraqi side was Sd. Adnan al-Hamdani, Member of the Regional Leadership of the Arab Baath Socialist Party and Secretary General of the Follow-Up Committee for Oil Affairs and Implementation of Agreements, Sd. Saadoun Hammadi, Foreign Minister, Sd. Mohammed Sabri al-Hadithi, Foreign Under-Secretary, Dr. Adnan Hardan Under-Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture, Sd. Saleh Mkhdi Ammash, Iraq's Ambassador to Paris, Sd. Salah al-Sheikhly Head of the Central Statistics Organisation, Sd. Ibrahim al-Wali, acting Director General of the Political Department and a number of other officials.

"Present on the French side was M. Segard Minister of State for Foreign Trade, M. Desterreman Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, M. de L'Estoile, Director-General of Industry, M. de Morel, Director-General of Foreign Trade, M. d'Aumale, Director-General of the Economic Department, M. Pierre Ceries, the French Ambassador to Baghdad and a number of other government officials.

"In the course of the talks, conducted in an atmosphere of profound cordiality and confidence, stress was laid on the Iraqi-French friendly relations. The two parties noted with satisfaction the growth of these relations in the interest of both France and Iraq. They also reviewed the general sum of issues of common concern to both countries and agreed on regular consultations on this score.

"The two parties were agreed on stressing the adherence of their respective governments to the principles of national independence, respecting the independence of other states refraining from intervention in

the internal affairs of foreign countries and instituting co-operation between all peace-loving countries. In this respect, the two parties emphasised the importance of the dialogue currently passing between the European and Arab states which is dictated by historic relations and justified by contemporary problems and by aspirations to the future. They further underlined the desire of both France and Iraq to co-operate in all spheres.

"The two parties underscored the importance of settling international problems by peaceful methods in conformity with the UN Charter and with international law and treaties. The Iraqi party expounded to the French party its grave concern over the strained situation in the region and in the Gulf. In regard to the Middle East issue in particular, the two parties reiterated their viewpoints and signified agreement on the necessity of the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from all occupied territories as a pre-condition for the establishment of just and durable peace within the framework of respecting the rights of the people of Palestine. Over this point, the Iraqi party lauded the attitude assumed by France towards the Palestine issue as well as towards the general sum of Arab issues.

"When discussing the issue of the energy crisis, the two parties stressed the necessity and importance of holding a dialogue on this score between the producing and consuming countries. In this respect, the government of Iraq signified warm welcome to the proposal made by the President of the Republic of France to call for a multinational conference of both exporting and consuming countries, with due to the problems relevant to other raw materials as well as to the worldwide inflation.



The two parties expressed satisfaction at the development of economic, industrial and technical relations between the two countries and observed that trade exchanges between France and Iraq are developing well and have recorded a long rise increase in 1974. They also noted with satisfaction the emphasis laid on industrial cooperation as well as the efforts made towards the rising of qualified cadres and towards the technological information in general. On this score, they noted that important tenders have been awarded to French establishments for carrying out projects under the Iraqi national development plan.

The Iraqi party expounded the broadlines of the forthcoming Five-year Plan. The two parties agreed on encouraging French participation in the implementation of the plan in keeping with the plan's main objectives. For attaining to this end, the French government is to approach French firms with a view to spurring them to operate in Iraq in a spirit compatible with the Cooperation Agreement signed on March 12, 1974.

In regard to colour television, the Government of Iraq signified desire to introduce the French system. The French party expressed preparedness to offer every assistance for the speedy accomplishment of this undertaking.

Meanwhile, cooperation in the agricultural sector earned special attention on the part of the French delegation as had already been accentuated by the visit made to Iraq by M. Bonnet the French Minister of Agriculture on November 4 last. It was therefore decided to set up a joint working committee on agricultural affairs, the committee to hold its meetings under the agreement of March 12, 1974.

In the industrial sector, the two parties reviewed the projects that are still on the drawing board, together with exploring avenues of long-term cooperation in the field of energy including the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. The two parties also agreed on cooperation in regard to petrochemicals as well as administration, telecommunications, maritime construction civil aviation, the motor car industry and hospital equipment. The two parties drew up a programme for cooperation in regard to information and electronics in a manner calculated

to enable Iraq to benefit from the technology achieved in French industry and laboratories.

Agreement was reached on a working programme in regard to the abovementioned sectors.

On the other hand, it was agreed that the French Minister of State for Foreign Trade should make a special visit to Iraq in 1975 for this purpose. He is to be joined on the visit by heads of French undertakings.

The two parties welcomed the agreement concluded on November 16, 1974 concerning air transport -- an agreement calculated to promote relations between the nationals and establishments of both countries. The French party signified willingness to offer the government of Iraq assistance to carry through a large-scale programme of technological and vocational rehabilitation in conformity with the spirit of this communique.

In the educational sector, the two parties discussed the existing cooperation between the two countries and noted that a programme has been put into force concerning higher education and technical cooperation particularly in regard to public health medicine commercial shipping, oil and agriculture. They noted the need for more efforts to promote the teaching of language as well as cooperation in other scientific and technical spheres. Accordingly, the Iraqi competent quarters are to extend invitations to the French Minister of Higher Education and to French university faculty members to visit Iraq.

M. Chirac and members of his delegation expressed satisfaction and extreme pleasure

at the warm welcome extended to them by Iraqi officials and members of the public.

#### DEPARTURE

M. Chirac and the accompanying delegation left Baghdad at 3 pm yesterday on his way home after a 3-day official visit to the country at the invitation of Sd. Saddam Hussein.

Sd. Hussein accompanied M. Chirac from Baghdad Palace to Baghdad International Airport where the French Premier shook hands with those present to bid him farewell. They included Sd. Saadoun Ghaidan RCC Member and Minister of Communications, Dr. Izzat Mustafa RCC Member and Minister of Health, Comrade Na'eem Haddad Member of the Regional Leadership of the Arab Baath Socialist Party and Minister of Youth Comrade Mohammed Mahjoub Member of the Regional Leadership of the Party and Minister of Education, Comrade Adnan al-Hamdani Member of the Party's Regional Leadership and Secretary General of the Follow-up Committee for Oil Affairs and Implementation of Agreements as well as cabinet ministers, the Mayor of Baghdad, heads of diplomatic mission in Baghdad, the Governor of Baghdad and the Director-General of Police, together with a number of officials and members of the French community in Baghdad.

Sd. Saddam Hussein and M. Chirac took the salute while the Republican Guards Band played the French and the Iraqi national anthems after which they inspected the guards of honour before heading to the plane. Bouquets of flowers were presented to the French guest by Baghdad children after which Sd. Saddam Hussein bade farewell to M.

Chirac followed by Dr. Saadoun Hammadi Foreign Minister, Sd. Mohammed Sabri al-Hadithi Under-Secretary of the Foreign Ministry and Sd. Saleh Mehdi Ammash Iraq's Ambassador to France.

M. Chirac boarded the special plane carrying him back home.

#### TOURS BAGHDAD

M. Chirac and the accompanying delegation toured different sites of Baghdad yesterday morning. The guest in his tour, which lasted about three hours, was accompanied by Sd. Tareq Azia Minister of Information and a protocol mission headed by Sd. Hamed al-Jebouri Minister of State.

M. Chirac toured AlMustansiriyah School where he listened to a detailed account about the school's role in the past ages in spreading science and culture by Dr. Issa Salman Director General of Antiquities after which the distinguished guest toured the market where he viewed Iraqi folkloric and popular handicrafts.

M. Chirac was met with warm welcome by the citizens who greeted President Ahmed Hassan al-Bakr and the French President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing and Iraqi-French friendship, presenting the guest with gifts of their own manufacture.

Afterwards, M. Chirac, accompanied by the Minister of Information visited the Abbasi Palace, Al-Falasiq Gate which is the middle gate of old Baghdad.

The French guest also visited the Iraqi Museum where he was presented with a souvenir gift. M. Chirac wrote the following message in the Museum's visitors book.

"On this earth where everything started and could start; I am glad to have passed across an example of yesterday's man effort fused into the dynamics and efforts of today's age."

#### TECHNICAL AGREEMENT

Sd. Saddam Hussein RCC Vice-Chairman and M. Jacques Chirac Prime Minister of France at noon yesterday signed an agreement on technical cooperation concerning colour television and the introduction by Iraq of the "Signal" system of TV transmission.

Speaking on the occasion, Sd. Saddam Hussein expressed pleasure at signing the agreement. Said he: "Iraq views the agreement with extreme interest because it comes within the framework of political concepts which reflect the desire to set up equal relations between France and Iraq and because it lays down the foundation for such relations." The RCC Vice-Chairman added: "We have done a great deal for the independence of our two countries as well as for enhancing the image of their shining future in the form of strong relations between the two sides as well as between France and the Arab world and between the Arab world and Europe -- all within the framework created by M. Chirac and to which we have given support."

The RCC Vice-Chairman went on to say that the steady steps already accomplished will leave their marks on the future.

In conclusion, Sd. Saddam Hussein said: "I am sure, Mr. Prime Minister, the greetings of the President of the Republic and his good wishes



...to the President of the French Republic and the greetings of all of us to the members of the French Government and the people of France along with best wishes for France's continued advance along the road of complete independence from all forms of foreign pressure.

Replying, the French Prime Minister said: "Permit me, Mr. Vice-Chairman to address in your person the eminent statesman who is endowed with power and competence for steering the people along the road of prosperity and national independence."

He further said that the agreement embodied the respect which France harbours to Iraq. M. Chirac added: "Please convey to President Ahmed Hassan al-Bakr my best wishes for his health. I would like to express best wishes for your assistants and thank, through you, the people of Iraq who accorded such a great reception to us."

In conclusion, the French Prime Minister expressed hope for the continued growth of political and economic cooperation between the two countries.

#### PRESS CONFERENCE

M. Chirac, speaking at a press conference in Baghdad yesterday said that the Iraqi government's plan to make of this country to moving force of Arab unity is parallel to the feelings of the French government that France should be the moving force of European unity. He expressed trust that the common orientation of Iraq and France towards the unification of Europe on the one hand and the Arab Nation on the other, side by side with the establishment of close relations between a united Europe and united Arab nation "will be an effective factor contributing to political and international balance."

At the start of the one hour and a half conference held at al-Rasheed Palace, the French Prime Minister said that he had three lengthy meetings with the ROC Vice-Chairman. He added: "I found that Sd. Saddam Hussein reflects fundamental respect to the concept of the socialist state and the national government. I also found that the political leadership seems to revive to Iraq a great history dictated by its great past."

He added: "Iraq is a country distinctive from other countries in the region and abounds in enormous wealths brought about by its sources of raw materials as well as water and human resources. This fully justifies the ambitions expressed by President Ahmed Hassan al-Bakr as well as by the political leadership of Iraq. It is really gratifying to see a strong willpower bent on rejuvenating energies in this country."

The French Prime Minister added: "It is small wonder therefore that, in my talks with the ROC Vice-Chairman, I found great accord in the viewpoints over the present inter-

national issues. Quite naturally, we positively dealt with bilateral issues which are of concern to our two countries on both the political and economic planes."

M. Chirac added: "My visit to Iraq, which comes two years from the visit which Sd. Saddam Hussein made to France, will, I believe, reflect our common desire to proceed forward along the path of close relations between a united Europe and a united Arab nation."

The French Prime Minister went on to say that Iraq and France are now in the process of exploring important avenues of cooperations. That, he said included industries in the fields of electronics and energy, including nuclear energy and its uses for peaceful and civilian purposes.

Replying to questions put to him by newspapermen, the French Prime Minister said in reply to an INA question that the guidelines of France's policy towards the Arab world had been set by Gen. de Gaulle and are based on two foundations; namely, consultation and cooperation.

Speaking of bilateral relations between the two countries, M. Chirac said: "Bilateral relations are based on common interests. France now is in a position to bring to Iraq high-level technology commensurate with the great technical and industrial efforts made by political leadership in this country."

The French Prime Minister disclosed that a number of decisions were made in the course of his talks with the ROC Vice-Chairman for developing bilateral relations. Agreement was reached on the implementation by France of a number of undertakings here in Iraq.

The French Prime Minister continued: "As to the French interests, you surely know that Iraq supplies us with oil which means that strong ties exist between our two countries."

Replying to a question put to him by a French newspaperman, M. Chirac said the purpose of his visit was, in the first place, political. "I am however in a position to add that the talks conducted with the ROC Vice-Chairman recorded progress in several other sectors. Positive talks were conducted over petro-chemical undertakings to be carried out jo-

intly with a group of French companies.

The French Prime Minister said: "I was pleased to learn of Iraq's decision to adopt the French system of colour television. We also discussed a number of important projects relevant to telecommunications and particularly to telephone and telegraphic communications with the outside world. We further signed a contract for the building of an aluminium plant."

M. Chirac added: "We have finalised talks over the building of motorcar factories and poultry farms."

M. Chirac continued: "France, which over the past number of years became Iraq's top supplier, sees in this both important economic and political implications."

Of France's attitude towards the Zionist structure in occupied Palestine, the French Prime Minister said: "You all know that France's policy has undergone no change in this respect. This was reflected by the attitude assumed by the French mission of the United Nations."

Replying to a question about the energy crisis, the French Prime Minister referred to the proposal formulated by France for calling a conference of the consuming and producing countries and said that the purpose of the conference is to substitute consultation for a showdown. He noted that the ROC Vice-Chairman had signified Iraq's assent to the French initiative. He added: "We agree with the re-

marks made by the ROC Vice-Chairman to the effect that the oil issue must not be discussed independently from the issues of other raw materials which have a direct bearing on the world-wide inflation. We have reached understanding on this and I am in a position to tell you that there is complete accord between Iraq and France on the score."

Discussing the question of Arab-European dialogue, M. Chirac said France was all too eager for a new chapter to be opened in the history of Europe and the Arab nation ushering close relations between a united Europe and a united Arab nation.

He further said: "The ROC Vice-Chairman has stressed to me the importance which Iraq

attaches to the European-Arab talks. The ROC Vice-Chairman knew of course that what is now happening in regard to the energy crisis constitutes an impediment in the way of the Arab-European dialogue. This is important because we should remove this issue from the way of the Arab-European dialogue."

Replying to another question, M. Chirac said: "I have imparted to the ROC Vice-Chairman the fact that France understands and appreciates the policy of the Government of Iraq towards the Palestine issue. Sd. Saddam Hussein made it abundantly clear to me that the political leadership of Iraq appreciates and respects France's position on this issue."

Questioned whether France has opted for establishing distinctive relations with Iraq, M. Chirac said: "Iraq has opted for a strong policy of national independence and has our agreement on this score. Within this framework, France has opted to give its relations with Iraq an important and exemplary character."

He further said that, for political and economic reasons, France wanted to maintain distinctive relations with all Arab states. He added: "Ever since the visit made to France two years ago by Sd. Saddam Hussein, we have been establishing close and cordial political relations which we have been constantly maintaining."

The French Prime Minister noted that his was the first visit made to Iraq by a French Prime Minister and expressed heartfelt thanks for the welcome accorded to him on both official and public levels.



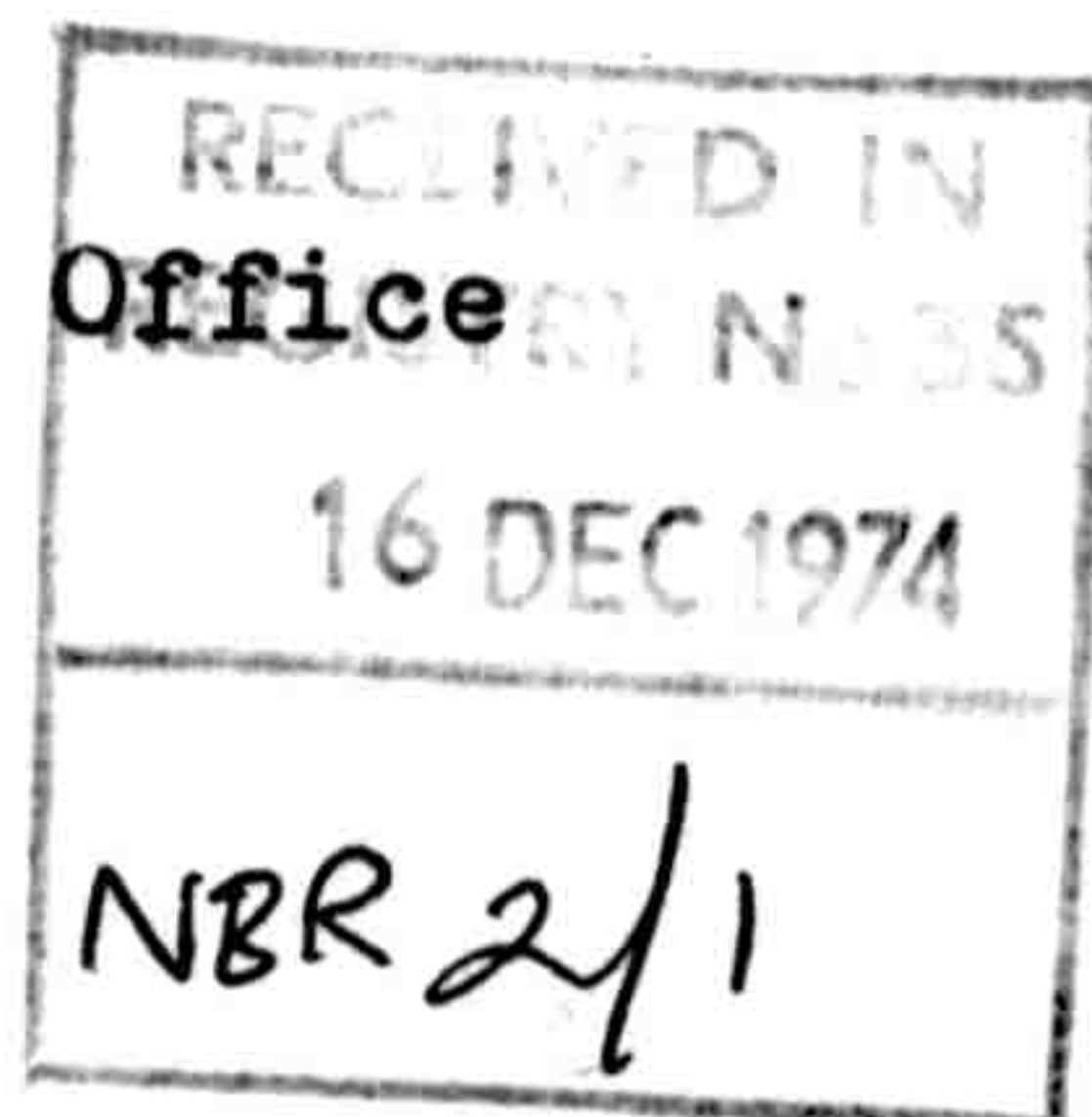


BRITISH EMBASSY

BAGHDAD

11 December 1974

G S Burton Esq  
Middle East Department  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office  
LONDON



GH M. Wogan - USUAD  
✓ 16/XII  
16/12  
pa

*See folder.*

## IRAQI RECRUITMENT OF EGYPTIANS

1. On 2 December it was announced in Baghdad that some 300 civil, architectural, mechanical and agricultural engineers will arrive in Iraq from Egypt next February to work in agricultural development under the Ministry of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform. This announcement followed the two week visit to Egypt of Nuri al Rawi, Director General of Animal Wealth.

2. I have also seen reports of the recruitment of Egyptian truck drivers and of fellaheen, but I cannot give you any precise details.

*Yours are,*  
*K D Temple*

K D Temple

cc: Chancery  
CAIRO



UNCLASSIFIED

42



BRITISH EMBASSY

BAGHDAD

3/47

11 December 1974

G S Burton Esq  
Middle East Department  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office  
LONDON

*copy* *EEB* *16/12*  
*16/12*  
*16*

*Dear Sir,*



IRAQ/GDR

1. In the wake of the visit of Horst Sindermann, there have been a lot of comings and goings between Iraq and the GDR. On 2 December, a GDR National Front delegation arrived, led by Mr Horst Schuetze. The delegation had talks with the Popular National Nationalist Front (PNNF), with members of the Ba'ath Party National Leadership, and with the Iraqi Communist Party.

2. At a lower level, at the same time, a delegation from the Higher College of Trade Unions of the General Federation of Trade Unions in the GDR was in Baghdad, and held discussions with Iraqi Trade Union leaders. The Head of the Theatre Arts Department in the University of Humboldt (?) has been visiting Iraq under the Culture Co-operation Agreement between the two countries. Travelling in the opposite direction on 11 December, a delegation from the Youth Ministry here set off for the GDR and Bulgaria to sign agreements in youth and sports affairs.

*Yours ever,*  
*K D Temple*  
K D Temple

cc: Chancery  
BERLIN



...the situation in the area and the Arab Gulf the two sides noted that the situation poses a threat to international peace and security. Thus, they agreed that the question should be settled within the context of the UN Charter and principles and the respect of treaties by countries.

Reviewing the situation in the Arab area the two sides had identical viewpoints that a durable and just settlement of the Palestine question will never be realised without the liberation of all occupied Arab territories and guaranteeing the Palestine Arab people their rights to self-determination on its land Palestine. They stressed their belief that the imperialist attempts to promote the Zionist occupation of the Arab territories by means of liquidatory settlements will be doomed to failure. In this regard, the Iraqi side expressed appreciation at the stands of support assumed always by Tanzania with regards to the Arab cause particularly of Palestine.

The two sides viewpoints agreed that it was important to implement the resolutions of the 4th Non-Alignment conference in Algeria to realise the broadest means of co-operation among various peoples particularly among the peoples of the Non-Aligned countries to realise the common objectives in social and economic developments and in liquidating colonialism and racialism.

Upon reviewing the tense situation in the area and the Arab Gulf the two sides noted that the situation poses a threat to international peace and security. Thus, they agreed that the question should be settled within the context of the UN Charter and principles and the respect of treaties by countries.

Reviewing the situation in the Arab area the two sides had identical viewpoints that a durable and just settlement of the Palestine question will never be realised without the liberation of all occupied Arab territories and guaranteeing the Palestine Arab people their rights to self-determination on its land Palestine. They stressed their belief that the imperialist attempts to promote the Zionist occupation of the Arab territories by means of liquidatory settlements will be doomed to failure. In this regard, the Iraqi side expressed appreciation at the stands of support assumed always by Tanzania with regards to the Arab cause particularly of Palestine.

The two sides viewpoints agreed that it was important to implement the resolutions of the 4th Non-Alignment conference in Algeria to realise the broadest means of co-operation among various peoples particularly among the peoples of the Non-Aligned countries to realise the common objectives in social and economic developments and in liquidating colonialism and racialism.

With a view of the desire to develop and expand the economic, trade and technical relations an agreement concerning economic, trade and technical cooperation between the two countries has been signed. The Tanzanian side had talks also with the officials of the Arab Fund for Foreign Development on the possibility of the Fund participation in the economic projects of Tanzania and had submitted a list of projects which the Tanzanian side desires to be covered by the Fund.

The Iraqi side expressed readiness to participate in these projects after the completion of the economic studies on them and after appraising them in the light of the economic development for both countries and in conformity with the spirit of the Arab League between Iraq and Tanzania.

The President of the Arab League expressed deep gratitude for the Arab South-South Forum. He said the governments of the Republic of Iraq and the Republic of Iraq for the Arab League and which will be held in Baghdad during the year 1974.



RESTRICTED

43



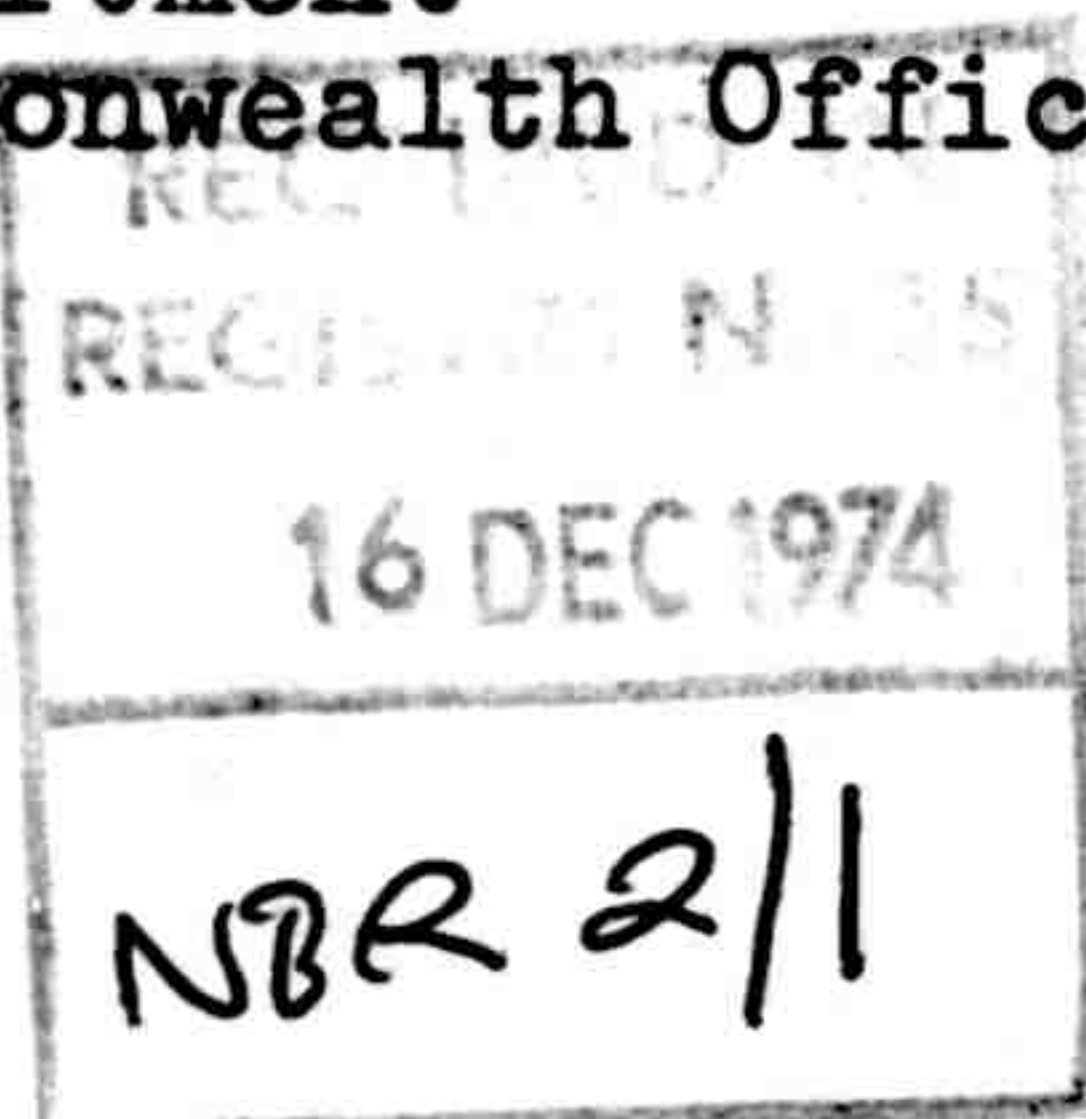
BRITISH EMBASSY

BAGHDAD

3/10

12 December 1974

G S Burton Esq  
Middle East Department  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office  
LONDON



*See folder.*

cc *EAD* *16/XII*  
*16/12*  
*14*

VISIT OF TANZANIAN FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

1. Mr Aboud Jumbe, Tanzanian First Vice-President, paid an official visit to Iraq between 5 and 9 December as a guest of the Iraqi Vice President, Taha Mohieddin Ma'arouf (who seems to be playing a more prominent role in public affairs these days). The usual talks were held, and I enclose a copy of the communique issued at the end of the visit.

2. It is clear that Jumbe was here with his hand out and you will note from the communique that the Tanzanians had talks with officials of the Iraqi Fund for Foreign Development. As far as we know, only one loan has so far been made from this Fund, of US\$ 10 million to Afghanistan; if the Tanzanians have been given financial aid, the details are unlikely to be published here, because the Iraqis are coy about their generosity, and we would be grateful if Dar-es-Salaam could give us any details which may be released at the Tanzanian end.

*in by [unclear]*  
*Already noted*  
*DB*  
*16/XII*

*Yours ever.*  
*K D Temple*

K D Temple

cc: Chancery  
DAR-ES-SALAAM

RESTRICTED



UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION OF THE TEXT OF COMMUNIQUE

The President of the Republic of Iraq, Mr. Saddam Hussein, paid an official visit to the Republic of Tanzania from the 5th to 9th December 1974.

Mr. Aboud Ibrahim, Vice-President of the Republic, and the accompanying delegation were received by Mr. Nyerere, President of the Republic of Tanzania. The delegation has expressed deep gratitude for the warm brotherhood and friendship extended to the President of the Republic of Iraq and the Government of the Republic of Tanzania.

Mr. Nyerere, Vice-President of the Republic of Tanzania, has conducted official talks with Mr. Saddam Hussein, President of the Republic of Iraq. Taking part in the talks on the Iraqi side were Mr. Saddam Hussein, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr. Abdul Wahid, Minister of Education, Mr. Abdul Wahid, Under-Secretary of the Ministry of Oil and Minerals, Mr. Osman, Minister of the Republic of Iraq, and Mr. Nyerere, Vice-President of the Republic of Tanzania.

On the Tanzanian side, the talks were attended by Mr. G.S. Malisila, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. C.D. Masoya, Minister of Finance, Mr. H.N. Moyse, Minister of State for the Vice-President Office, Mr. S.L. Bafia, Mr. Khamis Hamad, and Mr. Ramadhan Haji. Mr. Abdullah Natiba, all members of the Revolutionary Command Council. Mr. Kanjwa Hassan, Minister at the Health Ministry, Mr. C.B., Angisa, Tanzanian Ambassador to Cairo, Mr. A.B. al-Haji Sa'ad, Director-General of Protocol Department, Dr. C.A. Madani, Director-General of Livestock, Mr. J. Mosoloni, Director-General of Information and Research of the Foreign Ministry, Mr. A.T. Meshingama, Director in-charge of Financial and Cash Affairs and Dr. Sahiman Ali Mnzoko, Director at the Planning Department of Tanzania.

The talks were held in a friendly atmosphere and dealt with the development of bilateral relations between the two countries and questions of common interest. They dealt also with the current economic and social developments, particularly as far as they had a bearing on the Arab East and the African Continent. In the course of the talks, the two sides have expressed their firm desire to develop the friendly relations existing between them with a view to deepening these relations in the interest of their peoples. The Tanzanian side noted with satisfaction that important progressive developments have been brought about in all fields in the Republic of Iraq under the leadership of the Arab Baath Socialist Party. The Tanzanian side has particularly appreciated the successes scored by the Republic of Iraq in the field of consolidating her economic independence and safeguarding her national resources. The Tanzanian side considers the control of the Republic of Iraq over its natural resources as the only conform with the national interests of the people of Iraq, but it also considers that the development of the country must go hand in hand with the development of the world.

The talks were held in a friendly atmosphere and dealt with the development of bilateral relations between the two countries and questions of common interest. They dealt also with the current economic and social developments, particularly as far as they had a bearing on the Arab East and the African Continent. In the course of the talks, the two sides have expressed their firm desire to develop the friendly relations existing between them with a view to deepening these relations in the interest of their peoples. The Tanzanian side noted with satisfaction that important progressive developments have been brought about in all fields in the Republic of Iraq under the leadership of the Arab Baath Socialist Party. The Tanzanian side has particularly appreciated the successes scored by the Republic of Iraq in the field of consolidating her economic independence and safeguarding her national resources. The Tanzanian side considers the control of the Republic of Iraq over its natural resources as the only conform with the national interests of the people of Iraq, but it also considers that the development of the country must go hand in hand with the development of the world.



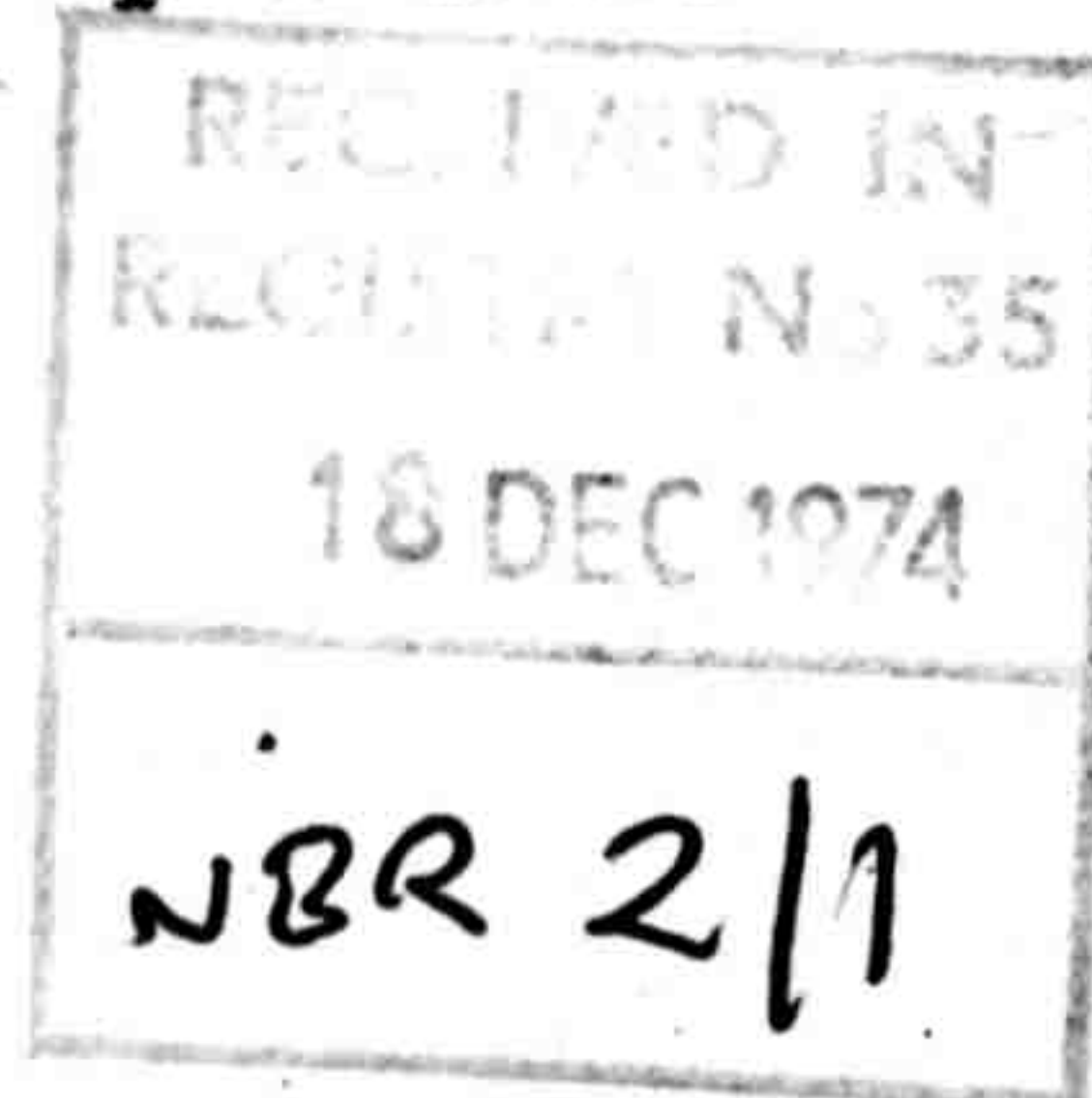
(44)

BRITISH EMBASSY ANKARA

P/PIP/OIL

10 December 1974

Mrs A C Cowie  
Export Credits Guarantee Department  
P O Box No 272  
Aldermanbury House  
Aldermanbury  
LONDON EC2P 2EL



IRAQ-TURKEY CRUDE OIL PIPELINE

1. Thank you for your letter OD 213/15/5 of 28 November - not copied to the other recipients of this letter - explaining that your department was no longer involved with the above project as the two British firms in contention had lost the contract on commercial grounds.
2. I enclose a copy of a routine "successful bidders" notice that we are sending to the Department of Trade for publication by EIS. The total value of the contracts now awarded is £155 m (approx). The point I wish to make is that, apparently, underwriters or bankers (or both) in Germany, France and Holland all seem to have taken a more positive attitude to this project than did our own Treasury. The view of the latter, if you recall, was that "... it seems foolhardy to contemplate the project at all..." I challenged this opinion in my letter of 23 July last.
3. Since British firms did not win any of the contracts, there is no point in taking this any further. But I cannot help feeling that the outcome of this case is an object lesson that we should do well to keep in mind for the future.

A Elgar

Copies to:  
P Donovan Esq, Baghdad  
E R C Holland Esq, FCO/TRED —  
CC M.E.D  
ENC





BRITISH EMBASSY ANKARA

P/PIP/OIL

10 December 1974

Successful  
bidders

Kirkuk-Dartyol Oil Pipeline

BOTAS, the Turkish company recently established to supervise the construction of the proposed oil pipeline between Iraq and Turkey and to operate it on completion, have announced the award of the following major contracts:

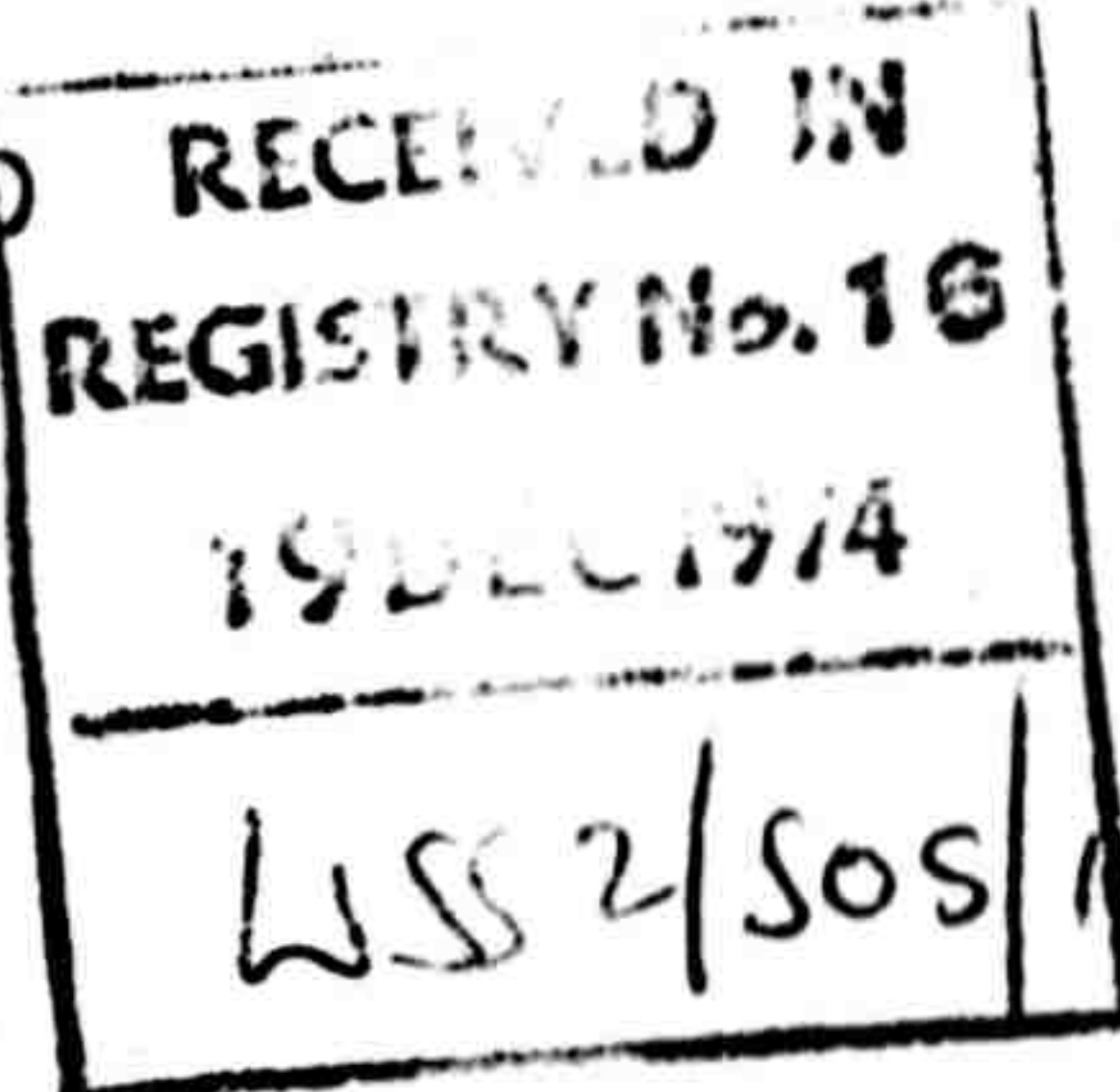
- (a) a £131,004,360 contract to the German Mannesmann-Thyssen group for the supply of 135,000 tons of steel pipe and pumping equipment for the 640 km pipeline (which the group will also lay);
- (b) a £15,723,270 contract to the Amsterdamische Balaster and Royal Netherlands Harbour Works in association with the Turkish company TSKM in respect of an off-shore oil loading facility; and
- (c) a £7,861,635 contract to the French company CMP Constructions Metalliques de Provence in association with TSKM for the construction of oil storage tanks.

Work on the project will start shortly.





RESTRICTED

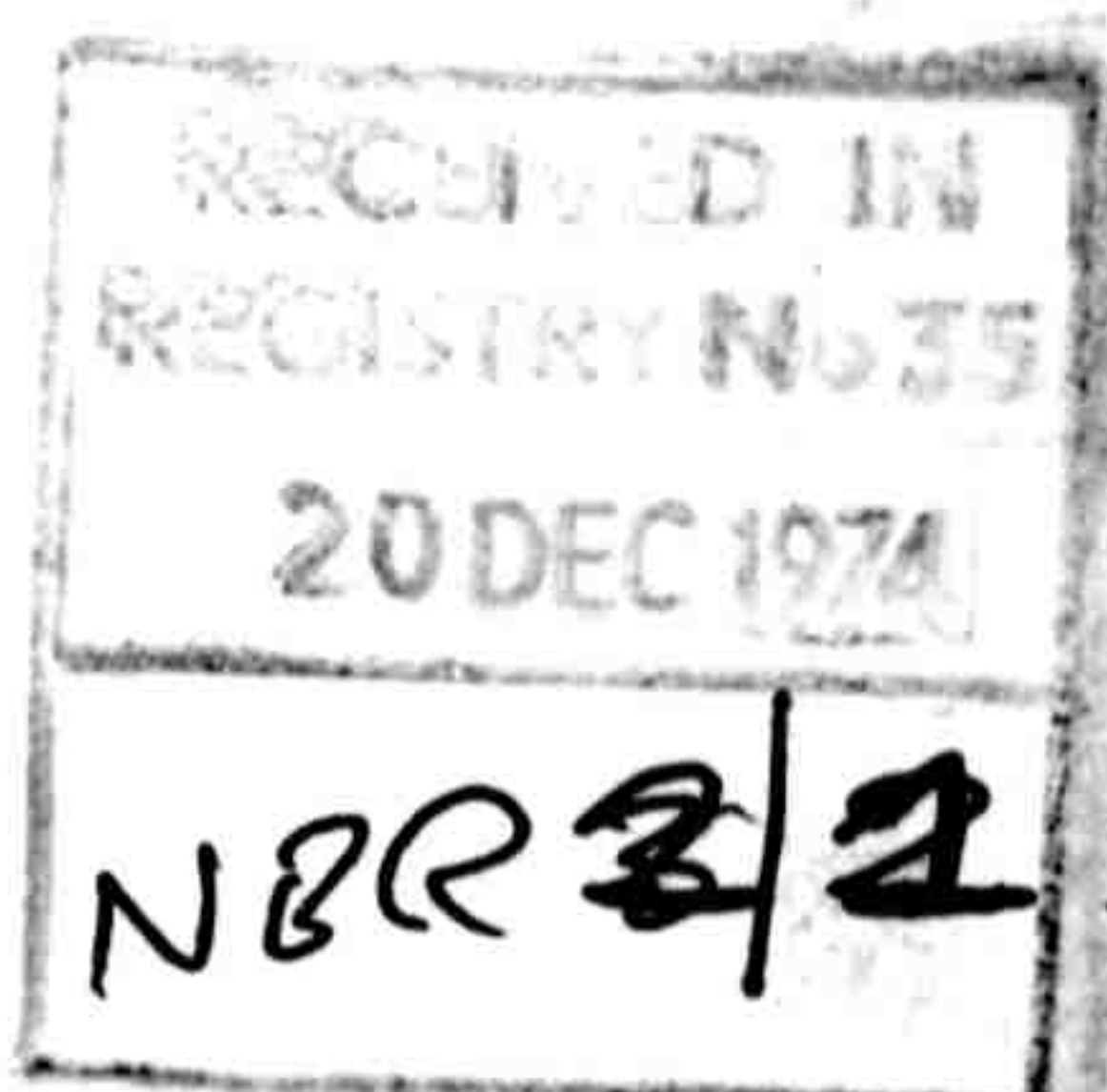


BRITISH EMBASSY

MADRID

13 December 1974

B J Everett Esq  
SWED  
FCO



a) Mr. ~~Burke~~ <sup>12 Enter</sup>  
Miss Marsden (NEWAD)

Dear Bernard,

#### VISIT OF IRAQI VICE-PRESIDENT TO SPAIN

1. A high-level Iraqi delegation led by the Vice-President of the Revolutionary Council Saddam Hussein paid an official visit to Madrid from 9-11 December. The official part of their visit is to be followed by three days sight-seeing in the South.
2. The visit was given wide press coverage and the programme included a call on General Franco and talks with a wide variety of Spanish Ministers and officials. The communiqué said that both sides agreed that confrontation should be avoided over the energy crisis which should instead lead to greater cooperation. Over the Sahara, a potentially tricky point, a formula was found whereby both sides expressed their confidence that the question would be solved in such a way as to strengthen the already excellent relations between Spain and the Arab countries. Both sides also agreed that peace could only be achieved in the Middle East through the liberation of the occupied Arab territories and the guarantee of their full rights to the Palestinians. In addition, a technical cooperation agreement was signed whereby Spain will train Iraqis both here and in Iraq in the fields of electronics, industry, tourism, agriculture and fisheries.
3. The visit was useful to the Spaniards, coming as it did soon after the debates in the UN over the Spanish Sahara which had slightly weakened belief in the solidity of Spain's traditional friendship with the Arab world. The Spanish Prime Minister, Sr Arias, has accepted an invitation to pay a return visit to Iraq at some later date.

Yours ever,  
Dick.

R D Wilkinson

cc: Chancery: Baghdad  
Rabat

RESTRICTED



UNCLASSIFIED

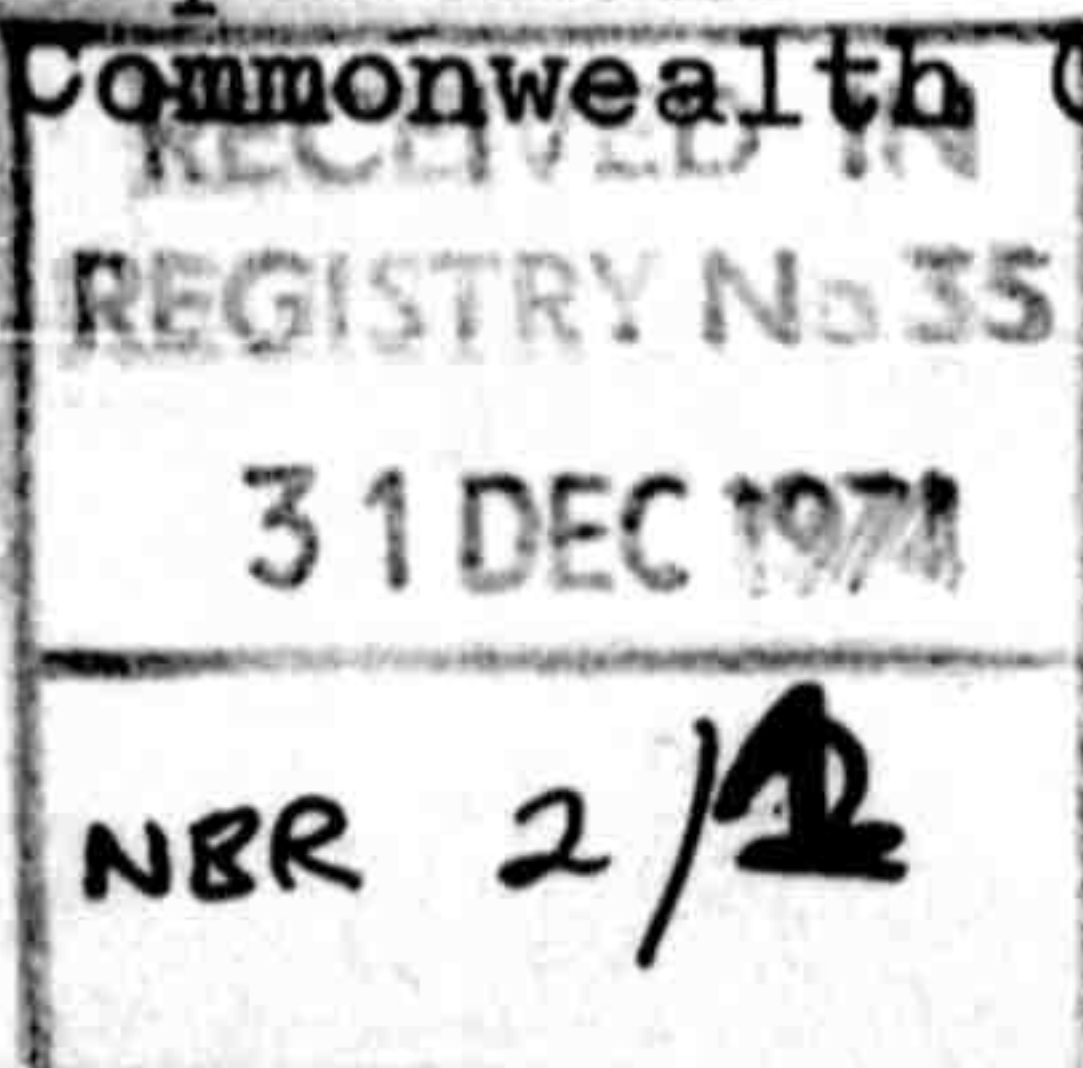


BRITISH EMBASSY

BAGHDAD

19 December 1974

G S Burton Esq  
Middle East Department  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office  
LONDON



*See below.*

*cc EAD 30-12-74*

*24/12  
pr*

ERITREAN LIBERATION FRONT

1. The Baghdad Observer of 18 December reports a statement made by Abdullah Idris, Chairman of the Eritrean Revolutionary Council, to an Iraqi News Agency correspondent in Khartoum, in which Idris hailed the "unlimited support" given by Iraq to the Eritrean revolution.

*Spence*  
*K D Temple*  
K D Temple

cc: Chancery  
Addis Ababa



UNCLASSIFIED

47

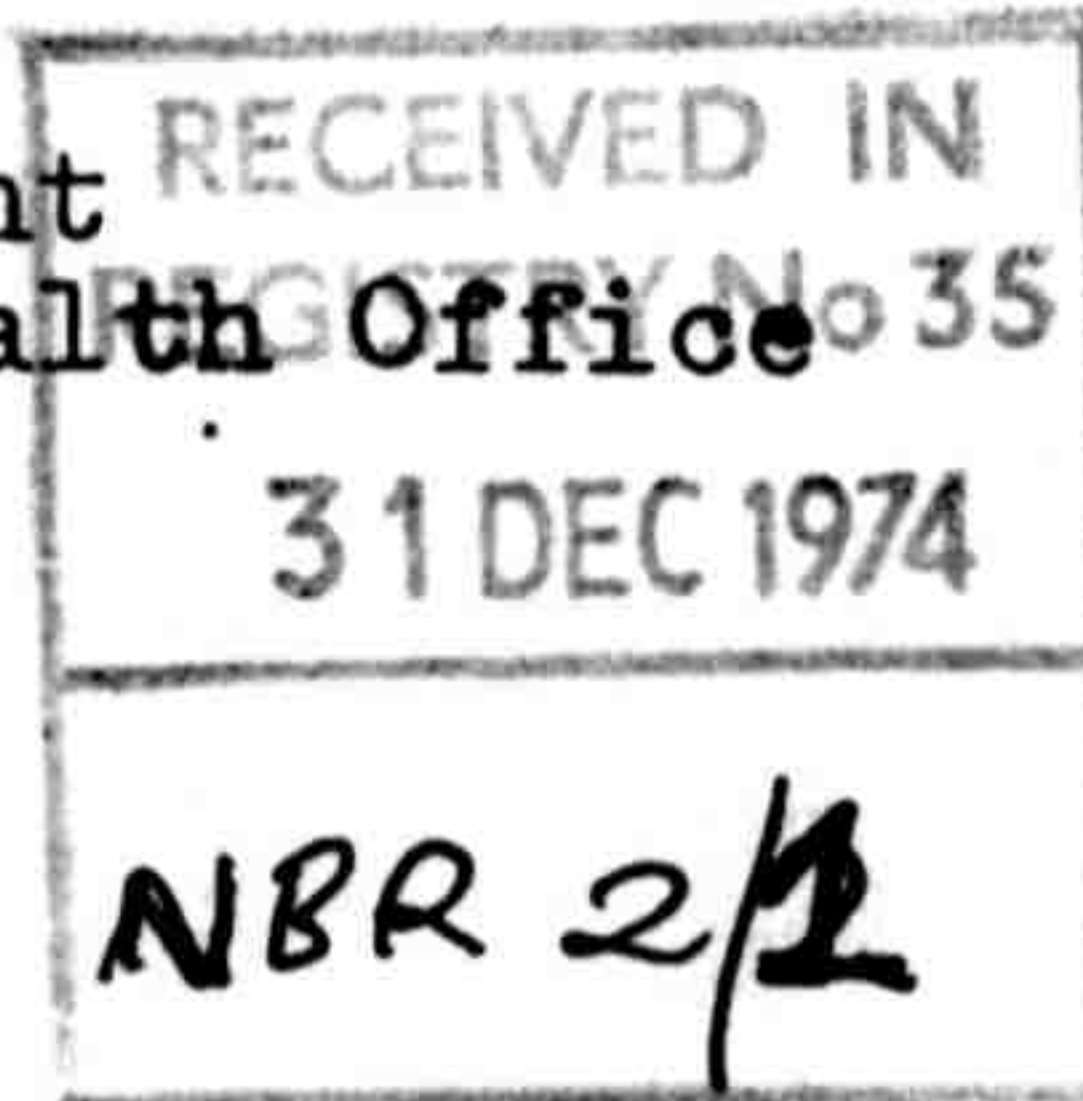


BRITISH EMBASSY

BAGHDAD

19 December 1974

G S Burton Esq  
Middle East Department  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office  
LONDON



*ent 2 per  
mbs 24/12*

*See below.*

#### RATIFICATIONS

1. The following ratifications by the Revolutionary Command Council have been announced in the Official Gazette:-

- (a) Law No.162 of 1974 ratifying the Protocol for Cultural Co-operation between Iraq and the Sudan, signed at Baghdad on 8 May 1974.
- (b) Law No.164 of 1974 ratifying the Protocol for Technical and Economic Integration and Co-ordination between Iraq and Egypt.
- (c) Law No.165 of 1974 ratifying the Agreement for Economic and Technical Co-operation between Iraq and Italy, and the three Protocols annexed to it, signed at Rome on 17 July 1974.
- (d) Law No.171 of 1974 ratifying the Protocol extending the International Wheat Agreement for 1971.

*apns me.*  
  
K D Temple

cc: Research Department  
FCO



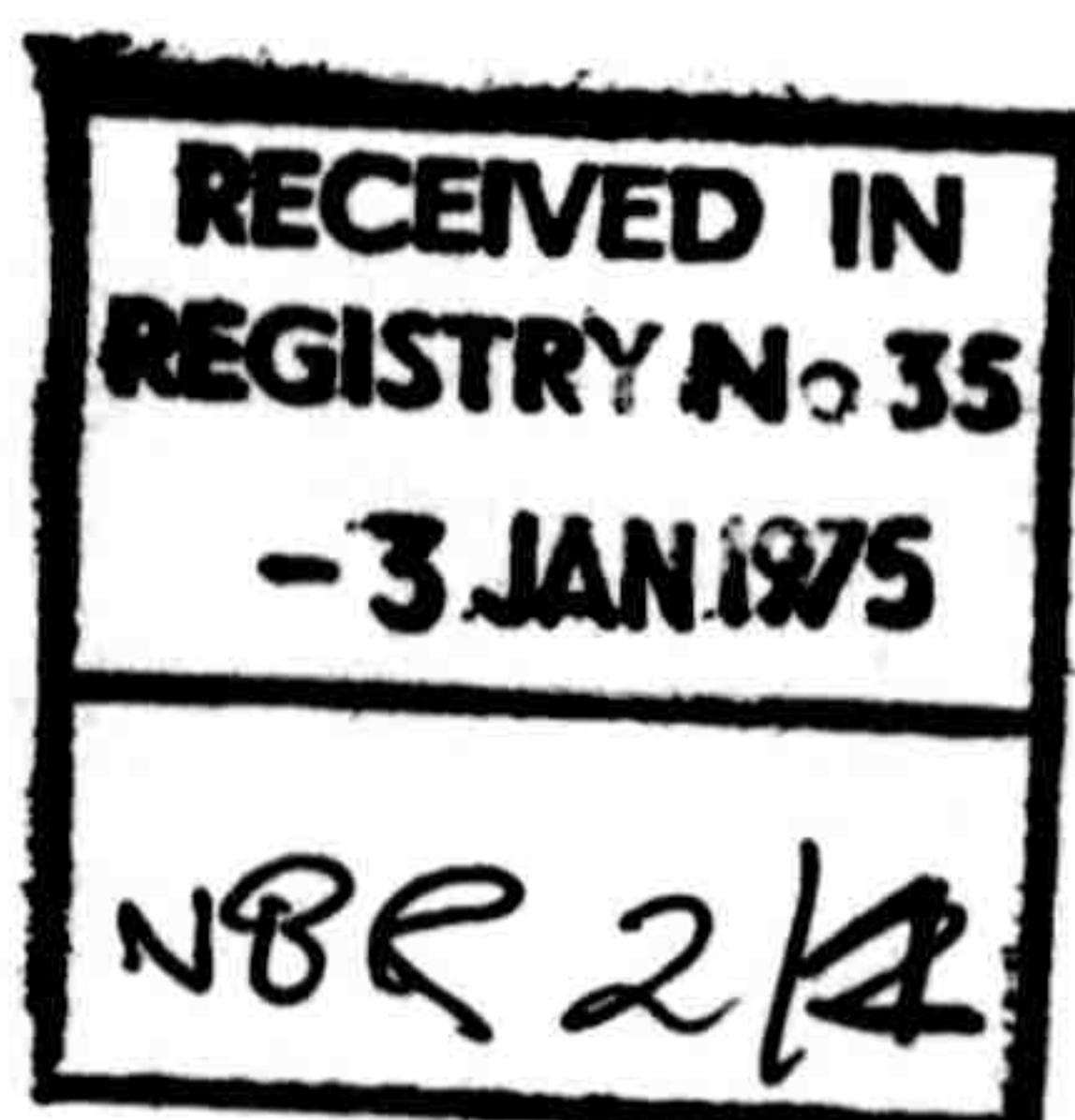


British Embassy  
Baghdad

3/47

23 December 1974

G S Burton Esq  
Middle East Department  
FCO



*Handwritten:* Hurv  
cc *[scribbles]* 19/11  
2/2  
B3

*See below.*

GDR VISITORS TO IRAQ

As a postscript to my letter 3/47 of 11 December, another senior East German visitor, Mr Siegfried Wagner, Deputy Minister of Culture, was in Baghdad from 8-17 December. He had talks with officials in the Ministry of Information here, and said that arrangements have been made to work out a new cultural plan for co-operation over the next two years.

*Yours ever,*  
*[Signature]*  
K D TEMPLE

cc Chancery Berlin



(49)

3/4



G S Burton Esq  
Middle East Department  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office  
LONDON

BRITISH EMBASSY

BAGHDAD

23 December 1974

cc: NCM  
IRD (n. Bern) 3/1/75

R 3/1  
NB pa

*See below.*

## ARAB/SOVIET FRIENDSHIP ORGANISATIONS

1. On his return from Moscow on 8 December, where he had attended the 3rd conference of the federation of friendship and cultural relations with foreign countries, Mukarram al Talabani, the Communist Minister of Irrigation, said that a conference of representatives of such friendship societies will probably be held in Baghdad (at an unspecified date). This would be a preliminary to holding a regional general conference of friendship associations with the Soviet Union.

*Yours etc.*

K D Temple

cc: Chancery  
MOSCOW



RESTRICTED

(50)

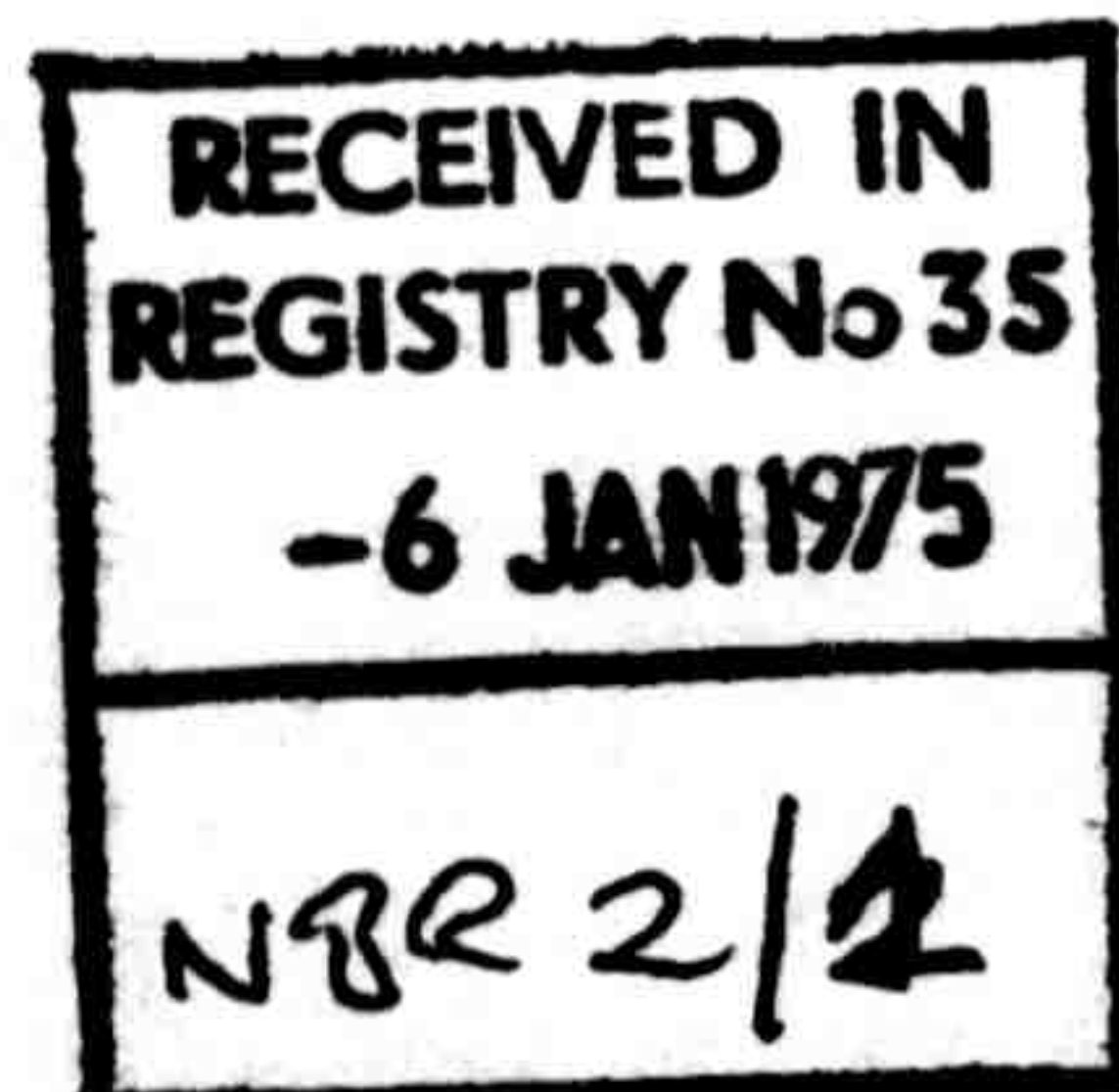


BRITISH EMBASSY

BAGHDAD

19 December 1974

G S Burton Esq  
Middle East Department  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office  
LONDON



*ma 6  
12/1*

*See below.*

ANNIVERSARY OF UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

1. The Iraqi Press went to town on 10 December in its comments of its articles commemorating the 26th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
2. Al Thawra said, amidst its usual platitudes on Zionism and Imperialism, that "the Arab Nation joins hands with all the fighting nations and peoples aspiring for freedom, justice and peace for ending all forms of exploitation, oppression and injustice. The Arab Nation is fighting for the supremacy of human values and principles all over the world."
3. Al Jumhuriya (the Government newspaper) was more openly anti-American: "The American regime, a self-styled representative of the most civilised societies, is continuing practising the Law of the Jungle". Attacking Washington, Tel Aviv and other practitioners of this Law, who were also celebrating the anniversary, the paper said that they could not "dupe" anyone because, 26 years after the escalation of the world liberation struggle, "they are totally isolated".
4. These articles were even more smug than is usual in the Iraqi Press.

*refers to  
K D Temple*

K D Temple

cc: UN Department  
FCO

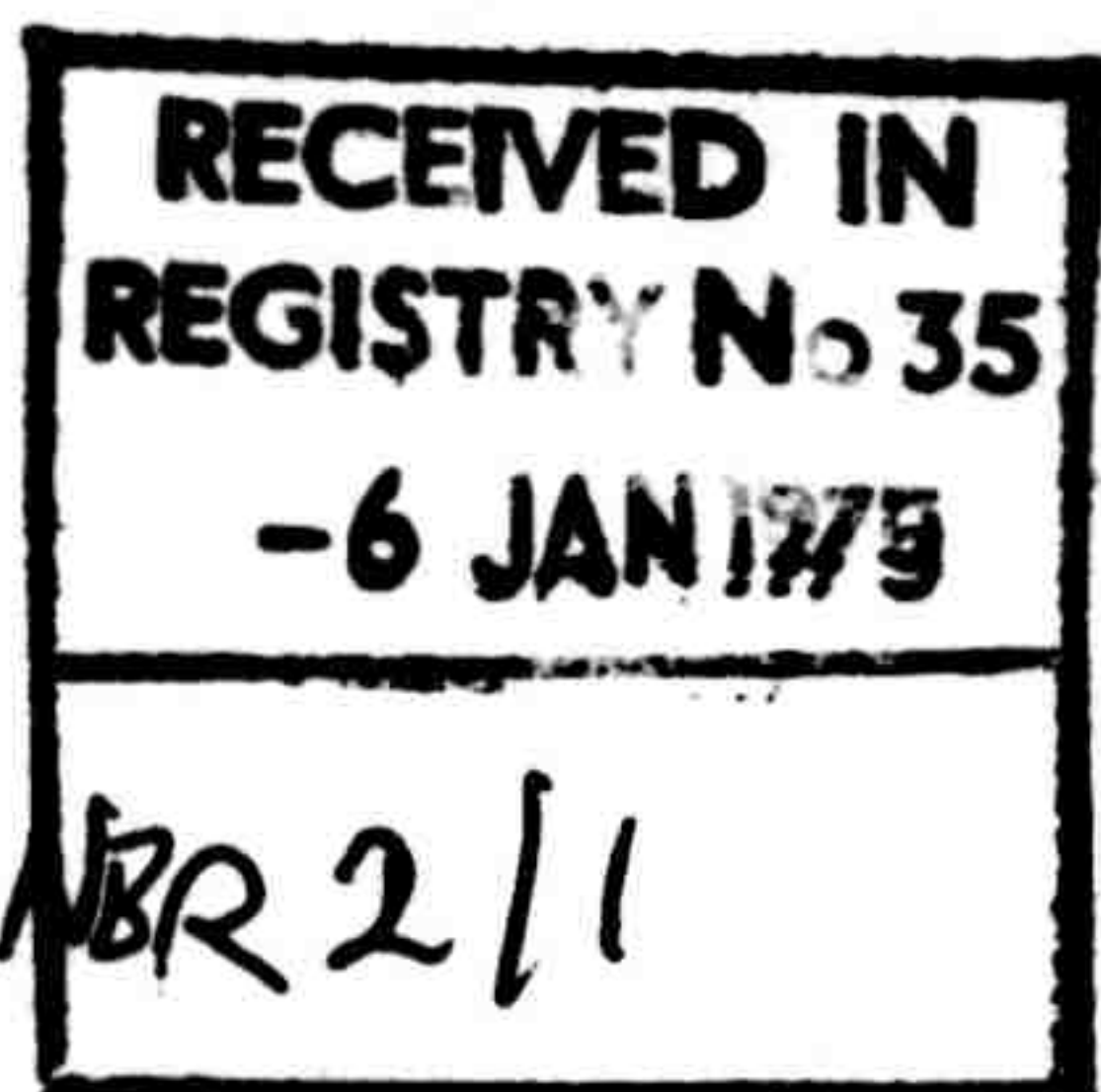
RESTRICTED



CONFIDENTIAL

Enter

cc: IRD W/ Berry (51)  
PUSD. 6/1  
HC 6/1



BRITISH EMBASSY

BAGHDAD

22 December 1974

in Clark? to see para 2

G S Burton Esq  
Middle East Department  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office  
LONDON

in Burton. D/V 11/11 pa

Dear Graham,

Mr. Burghman  
May I see att'd.  
the minute of X  
the Wright's minute on his discussion  
with Mr. Yager in Oct. 11/11

IRAQI PUBLIC RELATIONS

1. From 7 to 12 December the Radio, T.V. and Cinema Organisation, in co-operation with the Regional Broadcasting Union of Arab countries, held in Baghdad a rather sinisterly-named "Seminar on Counter-Propaganda and Psychological Warfare" (attended also by delegates from other Arab countries and organisations such as the Palestine Research Centre). I enclose a copy of the press statement issued at the end of the seminar, which lists its recommendations. They seem imprecise and ambitious, but the references to research and training for propaganda work (in items 1 and 4 of the list) seem to point to a more controlled propaganda effort; information training, especially, is a field where the Eastern bloc can make great headway in a country like Iraq. (The Iraqi News Agency reported on 17 December the arrival of two East German professors who will lecture at a 2 month journalists course.)

2. The holding of the seminar prompts a few reflections on what seems to be a growing Iraqi awareness of the importance of public relations. In the past their efforts have been weak (especially when compared to the Israeli propaganda machine). I have heard that the Iraqi Government regarded the National Front delegation which toured Europe in August as a failure (despite the self-congratulatory publicity it received at the time) and brought it home early. But their next major information activity, the importing of the hundred odd foreign journalists to attend the opening of the Legislative Assembly in Arbil in October, was well organised and left a good impression amongst several of the journalists who contacted us. A week later the Iraqis were open enough to allow a party of French newsmen to penetrate as far as Rawanduz. In the same spirit, the new Iraqi Ambassador in London has been briefed by the Minister of Information to cultivate the British press (see the Ambassador's minute of 18 December copied to the Head of News Department).

Good. X

CONFIDENTIAL



CONFIDENTIAL



- 2 -

3. But this seminar emphasises that the Soviets and their allies want to take advantage of this new Iraqi desire to improve their publicity. Perhaps as a follow-up to the seminar, the Baghdad Observer on 16 December printed a well-argued article on the subject of "information imperialism". The author (who was anonymous, but probably Communist judging by his references to the non-Baathi tenet of the class struggle) attacked the Western media as being a "key ideological weapon, the chief instrument for brainwashing the broad masses of the people ..... Imperialism never engages in merely spreading information on just ordinary cultural and educational activity."

*Yours ever,*  
  
K D Temple

cc: Captain D Norbury  
DI4, MOD

cc: News Department

cc: Ivan Callan Esq  
BEIRUT

CONFIDENTIAL



BAZANDAD OBSERVER : 14 DECEMBER

### SEMINAR ON COUNTER- PROPAGANDA ENDS

The six-day seminar dealing with counter-propaganda and psychological warfare held by the Radio, Television and Cinema Organization in cooperation with Arab radio stations, came to an end last Thursday. The seminar made general recommendations:

1— Using scientific research in drawing up informational plans and in confronting counter-propaganda by applying Psychology, Sociology, Social Psychology, Political Science, Economics and contact with the masses are to be the basis for such plans.

2— Cooperation of Arab radio and television establishments must be used in exchanging information and studies in an integrated framework along with the political and economic efforts.

3— Establishment of radio documentation centers in Arab radio stations to undertake defining, and recording of radio and television programmes, use of microfilms and computers to facilitate exchange of information.

4— Developing the technical skills of those working in the field of psychological war publicity and benefiting by new expertise in this field by getting training in Arab and world affairs.

5— Being aware of the gravity of the role played indirectly by information given as part of information campaigns made against the Arab nation.

6— Holding study seminars or symposiums and preparing radio and television programmes for use in the counter-propaganda and psychological warfare.

Representatives of Arab countries which are members in the Arab Radio Federation, the Palestinian Research Centre, the National Centre for Criminal and Social Researches and experts in the field of counter-propaganda and psychological war took part in the



RESTRICTED

W 51

Mr Giddens

1. I took the opportunity of my call this morning on the Minister of Information, Tariq Aziz, to give him a copy of the Economist piece on Kurdistan of 14 December. He said he had it at home but had not yet had time to read it. I said that I thought he would find it fairly balanced though obviously it was not what he would have written himself in Thawra. Tariq Aziz said that he for his part fully recognised that visiting journalists would not write 100% what the Iraqis themselves would write. That was their right and he was content, provided that the picture was balanced.

2. I then said that an important aspect of this would be the appointment of a good press attache in London, a man who spoke good English and had a fairly flexible approach. Tariq Aziz said that he had had this in mind and had spoken to the new Iraqi Ambassador urging him to start with the British press so that his attache could take it on from there. They would try and find a good man. I said that I was sure that News Department would be very ready to help with advice about who to get in touch with among the British press.

J. A. N. Graham

18 December 1974

Copied to:  
Head of News Department  
F C O

RESTRICTED



**Head of Chancery****IRAQ AND SPAIN**

1. I called today on the Director-General of the Political Department of the Iraqi Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sayyid Al-Wali. He had just returned with the Vice-President from his official visit to Spain and had obviously much enjoyed it, especially the sight-seeing in the south, though the latter had been rather rushed.

2. I asked him about the Spanish Sahara question. Sa Al-Wali said that Iraq's position was that the Spanish Sahara is part of the Arab homeland: they did not mind what solution for its future was adopted, whether it went to Morocco, Mauritania or Algeria or became independent, so long as it ceased to be a colony of Spain. They rejected self determination, though the Spanish Government argued that they were inconsistent to do so since they demanded the right of self determination for the Palestinians. Somewhat ingenuously Sa Wali argued to me that self determination was all very well but in the case of the Spanish Sahara the Arabs could not be sure of the result, since there were quite a lot of Spaniards living there and some of the indigenous inhabitants had been educated and trained in Spain, the implication being that they could not be relied upon to vote the Arab way. For their part, the Iraqis had chided the Spaniards also for inconsistency in that they rejected self determination for Gibraltar but demanded it for the Spanish Sahara. Sa Al-Wali said that the Spaniards also rejected the idea of reference to the International Court arguing that the Court, if it was to look at the case at all, must look at the future and not merely at the past.

LAST PAPER

15 December 1974

J A N Graham

Copied to:

Chancery, Madrid  
Chancery, Rabat  
Chancery, UNIS New York  
Middle East Department, POC



Iraqi Public Relations; Iraqi Relations With Communist And Socialist Countries. External Relations Of Iraq. 15 Jan. 1974. MS Middle East Online: Iraq, 1914-1974: Selected files from series AIR, CAB, CO, FCO, FO, PREM, T, WO, The National Archives, Kew, UK FCO 8/2312. Newspaper Cutting. The National Archives (Kew, United Kingdom). Archives Unbound, [link.gale.com/apps/doc/SC5107498863/GDSC?u=webdemo&sid=bookmark-GDSC&xid=275f4eae&pg=1](https://link.gale.com/apps/doc/SC5107498863/GDSC?u=webdemo&sid=bookmark-GDSC&xid=275f4eae&pg=1). Accessed 11 Apr. 2022.